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DECEASED WORKERS

- Ramu Chauhan (48), Yadgir
- Dharmesh Singh (28), Chhattisgarh
- Rajpal Singh (35), Madhya Pradesh
- Satyanarayan Singh (32), MP
- Ramavatar Singh (31), MP
- Bhuvaneswar Singh (38), MP
- Rajesh Prasad Chaudhary (28), MP



INJURED WORKERS

- Nihal Singh (23)
- Anand Hadapad (22)
- Gulab Singh (27)
- Rajpal Singh (30)
- Chotu Lal Singh (19)

Names in FIR

Accused 1: Unknown persons

A2: D Anand Swamy, owner of Basaveshwara Stones, adjacent quarry

A3: Uday Shankar S R, owner of Kaveri Stone Crusher, Hulevenahalli

A4: Pandu, mason supervisor the work at Basaveshwara Stones

A5: Thirupati, excavator driver

HEART OF STONE: No attempt to assess stability of rock formation, risks

‘No safety goggles, not even facemasks; quarry workers treated like slaves’

MANJUNATH SHETTA
BENGALURU, DHNS

Fire and emergency services personnel who carried out the rescue operation at a quarry near Bengaluru said labourers were forced to work in grossly unsafe conditions, describing the work environment as one that “treated workers like slaves.”

Officials who inspected the site told *DH* that the quarry exposed glaring violations of basic safety norms.

According to them, thick dust engulfed the entire quarry, severely reducing visibility. Yet workers had not been provided with even the most basic protective equipment like face masks or safety goggles.

“They were carrying out drilling operations in extremely hazardous conditions without helmets, hand gloves, protective footwear or any other essential safety gear. There appears to have been no attempt to assess stability of the rock formation or identify potential risks before work began. More alarmingly, neither a supervisor nor a contractor was present at the site when the mishap occurred,” a senior fire official said.

The officer said the conditions under which labourers were made to work reflected a complete disregard for worker welfare and safety.

“The workers were treated like slaves at the workplace, with little concern for their lives, dignity or safety. It reflects gross negligence on the part of those responsible for the quarry’s operations. The owners, contractors and supervisors must be held accountable,” the official added.



The spot where seven workers lost their lives in a quarry accident at Tavarekere on the outskirts of Bengaluru in the early hours of Thursday. (Inset) People cover their faces to protect themselves against quarry dust. DH PHOTOS/PUSHKAR V

20 licences suspended; ops under scanner

The department of mines and geology has temporarily suspended 20 quarrying licences, including those of Kaveri Crusher Stone and neighbouring Basaveshwara Stones, following the fatal rock collapse, even as officials intensified scrutiny of quarrying operations in the region.

According to a senior geologist from Bengaluru urban, 54 stone quarries operate in

and around Hulavenahalli and Madapatna villages in Bengaluru South district.

Officials identified the owner of Kaveri Crusher Stone, where the workers were killed, as Uday Shankar S R, a resident of Chamarajpet. Records show he was granted a 30-year quarrying lease on November 17, 2005, which was renewed in 2015 and remains valid until 2035.

A senior officer from Tava-

rekere police station said Uday Shankar was considered an influential figure in quarrying business and was believed to have significant interests in road-tarring contracts and quarry operations around Bengaluru.

Officials said the quarrying licence would remain suspended pending the outcome of the investigation into the accident and alleged violations of mining and safety regulations.

Meeting on mining protocol soon, says Shivakumar

BENGALURU, DHNS: Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Thursday said strict action, including registration of FIRs, would be taken against those found to have violated rules in connection with the stone quarry collapse that claimed seven lives.

The chief minister visited the injured and the families of the victims at Rajarajeswari Medical College and Hospital in Kengeri, where the bodies of the deceased have been kept and the injured are undergoing treatment.

Responding to reporters’ questions on whether action had been taken against offi-

cials and whether quarry owners had been traced, he said: “What action can be taken against officials at this stage? I will soon convene a meeting on mining protocol. Going forward, all quarries will have to operate strictly according to these guidelines.”

“We are preparing mining protocol based on inputs from officials. In future, uniform regulations will have to be enforced for all quarries. Right now, an unfortunate incident has occurred. We will issue clear directions to ensure such incidents do not recur.”

“We will obtain all reports and examine what violations,



Chief Minister D K Shivakumar interacts with a worker injured at the quarry incident at a hospital in Bengaluru on Thursday. PHOTO: CMO

if any, have taken place. Appropriate action will be taken. Just as legal action is initiated against anyone else under the

law, the same will be done in this case,” he added.

He dismissed Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka’s allega-

tion that the number of illegal quarries had increased over the past two to three years.

“You have seen these quarries yourselves. Were they started just one or two years ago? They have been operating for 20 to 30 years.”

He said police had contacted the families of the deceased and injured workers, and arrangements were being made to send the bodies home.

“The government will provide compensation as per rules. Quarry owners have been directed to provide separate compensation to victims’ families,” he said.



The two-storey building being demolished after it tilted precariously, in Bakshi Garden, Cottonpet, on Thursday. DH PHOTO/KISHOR KUMAR BOLAR

Panic grips Cottonpet as old bldg tilts

BENGALURU, DHNS: Panic gripped Cottonpet for some time after a nearly 50-year-old two-storey building developed a dangerous tilt on Thursday, trapping two people inside for a brief period. No casualties reported.

Officials said the 20x30-foot building, which houses a clinic on the ground floor and a residence on the upper floor, suddenly began to lean, prompting those inside to rush

out. One person managed to escape immediately, while another remained trapped inside the tilted structure.

Fire and Emergency Services personnel, along with Cottonpet police, launched a rescue operation and safely evacuated the second occupant. Greater Bengaluru Authority officials also reached the spot to assess the situation. The building will be razed completely, it’s learnt.

Bomb threat to ISRO headquarters declared hoax

BENGALURU, DHNS: Panic ensued briefly on Thursday after unidentified suspects sent an email warning of an explosion in the headquarters of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in northern Bengaluru.

Following a thorough sweep, the threat was declared a hoax. The email was sent to the space agency’s official email IDs, warning of a bomb blast, the police said.

As soon as the alert was received, bomb squads, anti-sabotage teams, sniffer squads and police officials from the jurisdictional Sanjaynagar were deployed.

As per the Standard Operating Procedure, a thorough sweep was conducted and the threat was declared a hoax. A case has been registered, the officials said.

Two-day conference on agri tech at IIPM from today

► BENGALURU, DHNS: A two-day international conference on agricultural technology will be organised at the campus of Indian Institute of Plantation Management (IIPM) in Jnanabharati here to highlight innovations, sustainability and value chain-driven business strate-

gies, starting Friday.

In a press release, the IIPM said the event will feature over 100 research papers by scholars, researchers and industry professionals from across the country and abroad. It seeks to provide a global platform to deliberate on the opportunities and

challenges ahead.

Union Minister of State for MSME, Labour and Employment Shobha Karandlaje is expected to inaugurate the conference. The meet is expected to generate actionable insights and policy recommendations, the director of the institute said in a release.

Only 21% of tourism capacity exploited in Bandipur, Nagarahole: Report

CHIRANJEEVI KULKARNI
BENGALURU, DHNS

The 40% increase in safari trips in Bandipur and Nagarahole landscape notwithstanding, the technical committee of the State Wildlife Board had noted that the two reserves adopt “restrained” visitor thresholds compared with 6 other reserves in the country.

Firstly, the study said, the ecotourism area of Bandipur tiger reserve was 88.5 sq km, less than 10% of its core tiger habitat.

The eco tourism area of Nagarahole tiger reserve was 70.84 sq km, including 58.42 sq km in Sunkadakatte zone and 12.42 sq km in Nagarahole zone, which is also less than 10% of the core area of the reserve.

The committee said the ecotourism zones in both tiger reserves were well within 20% of the core area stipulated by the National Tiger Conservation Authority’s 2012 guidelines.

“The Bandipur and Nagarahole assessments adopt comparatively restrained visitor thresholds, adequate correction factors and cautious management capacity estimates,” the study said.

While recommending an



The technical committee of the State Wildlife Board said the ecotourism zones in both tiger reserves were well within 20% of the core area stipulated by the National Tiger Conservation Authority’s 2012 guidelines.

increase in the cumulative number of safari vehicle trips from 97 last year to 137, the study said final effective carrying capacities recommended for both reserves remain substantially lower than those reported from many other tiger reserves, despite supporting some of the highest densities of tigers.

Disturbance to wildlife, management capacity, closure periods per year and erosion of road are the four factors employed to limit the number of trips.

The study said Bandipur and Nagarahole reserves

impose relatively stricter carrying capacity framework compared to other reserves, effectively reducing the number of trips.

“The reduction from permissible carrying capacity (PCC) to real carrying capacity (RCC) in Bandipur is nearly 80%, indicating that constraints substantially shape the final tourism estimate,” it said.

Finally, the number of visits per day were determined based on effective carrying capacity (ECC) determined by the management capacity, which is defined as the sum of conditions, especially staff and infrastructure, that the protected area requires to carry out its functions.

The ECC or number of trips allowed in Bandipur is at 56 per day, which is the “lowest reserve-level” estimate among all tiger reserves.

For example, ECC at Ranthambore is (291), followed by Kanha reserve (178), Mudumalai (128), Tadoba (125), Panna (95).

The ECC at Nagarahole zone is 31 visits a day & Sunkadakatte zone 50 visits a day, considerably lower than reserve level estimates of other reserves. To a question, an official said the study had not sidelined the conflict issue.

Renukaswamy murder: Darshan’s fans held for threatening witness

Was told on a phone call to depose as directed by suspects

BENGALURU, DHNS

A Bengaluru court on Thursday sent three people into five-day police custody for threatening a witness in the Renukaswamy murder case, in which Kannada film star Darshan Thoogudeepa is a key accused and is currently lodged in jail.

Police sources told *DH* that Puneeth, 40, Suhas, 37, and Venu, 33, all from Tumakuru, were taken to the court following medical examination. They were remanded in police custody for further investigation.

Kamakshipalya police on Wednesday arrested Puneeth, a grocery retail business owner; Suhas, construction supervisor; and Venu, a software engineer, for threatening a prosecution witness in the case.

The three are accused of intimidating and threatening the witness against deposing before the court. The witness

had told the court on June 30 that he had received the threats on a phone call and was asked to depose as directed by the suspects.

Puneeth was the admin of the Facebook fan page, ‘D Company’, while Suhas was the editor of the page and Venu a member.

Renukaswamy, a 33-year-old resident of Chitradurga, was found murdered near a stormwater drain in Sumana-halli, West Bengaluru, on June 9, 2024. His body was badly mutilated.

Police arrested Darshan, his female friend Pavithra Gowda and seven others two days later. More arrests followed subsequently. According to police, the motive behind the murder was Renukaswamy’s “obscene” messages to Pavithra on social media. On September 3, 2024, police filed a 3,991-page charge sheet, naming Pavithra as accused 1 and Darshan as accused 2, detailing the brutality of the crime. They subsequently filed a supplementary charge sheet.

On August 14, 2025, the Supreme Court cancelled the bail granted by the Karnataka High Court to Darshan, Pavithra and others and allowed the prosecution’s special leave petition.

A trial is currently underway.

Three rowdies convicted in 2016 murder case

BENGALURU, DHNS: A city court has convicted three history-sheeters to life imprisonment in a 2016 murder case, officials said on Thursday.

The convicts are Venkatesh alias Kappe, Nagaraj alias Karishma, and Puneeth alias Kan-nuri. A police statement said the victim, Nagaraj, was brutally killed with deadly weapons on the pretext of returning a loan on March 20, 2016.

Investigating officer MH Umesh of the KP Agrahara police station investigated the case under the guidance of senior officers, collected evidence and filed a charge sheet. Following a full trial, the court, having considered the witness testimonies, medical evidence and other scientific evidence, pronounced its judgment on March 20. It found all three guilty and sentenced them to life in prison.

District Leprosy Officer held for taking Rs 15,000 bribe

► BENGALURU, DHNS: The Lokayukta police on Thursday caught a medical officer for taking a Rs 15,000 bribe.

The suspect is Dr Bhujabali D Yalagudri, 54, District Leprosy Officer, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Bengaluru Urban district.

Officials said the suspect

demand a Rs 30,000 bribe from a Unani doctor to sign and approve a KPME (Karnataka Private Medical Establishments) licence. Following a complaint by the doctor, the Lokayukta police set a trap and caught Yalagudri taking Rs 15,000 as the first instalment of the bribe.

Jyoti Nivas College Celebrates 60 Years of Academic Excellence

Bengaluru, July 2, 2026: Jyoti Nivas College Autonomous, one of Bengaluru’s premier institutions of higher education for women, will celebrate its Diamond Jubilee on Friday, July 3, 2026, marking sixty years of academic excellence, innovation, and service to society.

The commemorative event will be graced by **Priyank Kharge**, Karnataka’s Minister for Home Affairs, and **Ramalinga Reddy**, the Minister for Major and Medium Irrigation, as chief guests. The celebrations will bring together members of the management, faculty, students, alumnae, and distinguished guests to honour the institution’s rich legacy and its continuing contribution to higher education.

A major highlight of the occasion will be the inauguration of the college’s newly renovated library, a modern learning and knowledge resource centre designed to support contemporary teaching, research, and interdisciplinary learning. The upgraded library reflects the institution’s commitment to providing students with state-of-the-art academic infrastructure while fostering a vibrant culture of reading, scholarship, and lifelong learning.

Established in 1966 and managed by the Sisters of St Joseph of Tarbes, Jyoti Nivas College has grown into one of Karnataka’s most respected autonomous institutions, offering a wide range of undergraduate, postgraduate, and research programmes across the arts, science, commerce, management, and emerging disciplines. Guided by its vision of empowering women through holistic education, the college continues to nurture academic excellence, ethical leadership, social responsibility, and innovation.

Over the years, the institution has earned several prestigious recognitions that underscore its commitment to quality education. It was awarded an ‘A+ Grade in the fourth cycle of reaccreditation by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) in 2021. In the same year, it was recognised in the ‘Promising’ band under the Government-Aided Technical Institutions category in the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) by the Ministry of Education, Government of India. Earlier, in 2014, the college was conferred the status of ‘College of Excellence’ by the University Grants Commission (UGC), acknowledging its sustained academic distinction and institutional development.

The Diamond Jubilee celebrations will serve as both a tribute to six decades of transformative education and a reaffirmation of Jyoti Nivas College’s commitment to preparing future generations of socially conscious, globally competent, and intellectually empowered graduates.

DH

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Almost every locality in Bengaluru has a street corner or vacant plot that has turned into an informal garbage dump. These black spots are not merely an eyesore; they are a threat to public health and the environment. Deccan Herald and Prajavani invite citizens to share details and photographs of such sites for publication in these columns, in order to help push for timely action from the authorities. Citizens are also encouraged to share photos of garbage black spots cleared after being highlighted in these columns.



A mound of uncleared garbage opposite Arise Awake Public School, Telecom Layout, Pipeline Road/ Sunkadakatte. PHOTO: A RESIDENT



A heap of garbage dumped next to Navami Symphony, Bangarappanagar Main Road in RR Nagar. PHOTO: A READER



A pile of uncleared garbage on 2nd Main Road, adjacent to Brindavan apartments in B Narayanapura. PHOTO: A RESIDENT



Pile of uncleared garbage spreads on to road near Nice road bridge at Channasandra in RR Nagar. PHOTO: A RESIDENT



Uncleared litter near cemetery at Kyalasanahalli, close to Yumm Keralam. PHOTO: A RESIDENT

HURDLES OUT OF THE WAY: It's a safe pavement campaign: GBA

Footpath clearance: Govt's considered measure, but considerate to vendors

BENGALURU, DHNS

Amid pushback from a section of citizens, the 'Safe Footpath Campaign' entered its second day on Thursday with civic authorities across all five city corporations continuing the clearance of encroachments that will go on for the next eight days.

Unlike the first day, when the focus was largely on roadside vendors, Thursday's operation targeted a wider range of encroachments, including shop extensions, push carts, metal sheets and canopies, steps and ramps built over footpaths, advertisement boards, temporary kiosks and other unauthorised structures.

Across the five corporations, civic teams cleared stretches of arterial and sub-arterial roads using earthmovers, tractors and manpower. Officials said the emphasis was on restoring pedestrian space by removing permanent and semi-permanent obstructions that had occupied footpaths.

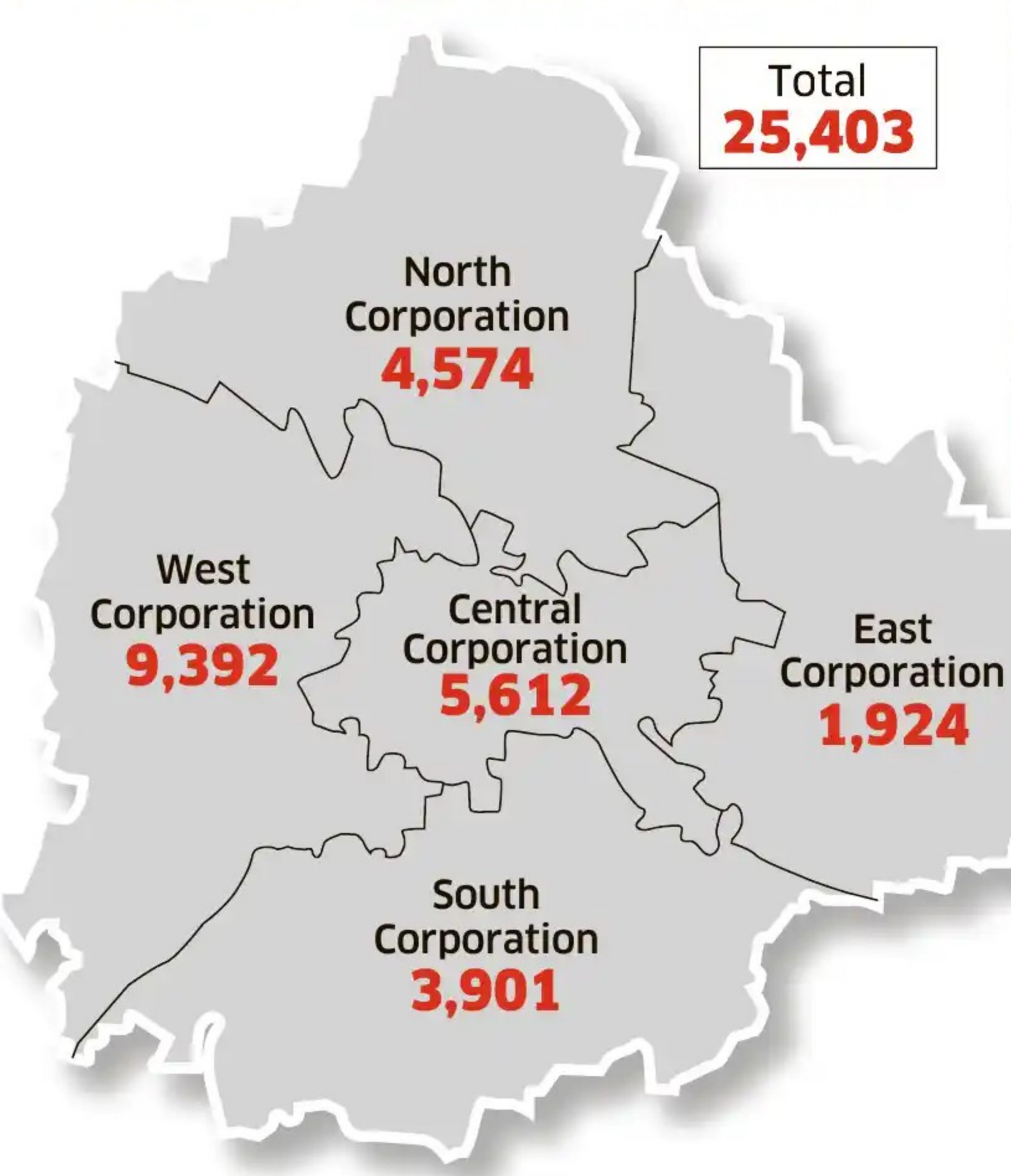
The Central Corporation covered 8.55 km, deploying 80 personnel, six JCB excavators, 20 tractors and five tippers. The South Corporation cleared 10.4 km, with 127 personnel and 30 tractors. The drive covered stretches like Bannerghatta Road from Jayadeva Hospital, parts of Jayanagar and adjoining roads.

The North Corporation covered 12.7 km, deploying 108 personnel, nine JCBs, 28 tractors and a tipper whereas East Corporation cleared 7.5 km, including stretches along ITPL Main Road, Hoodi Flyover towards Ayyappanagar and Lowry Junction-Mahadevapura corridor. The West Corporation did not share details.

Senior GBA officials said the drive will continue on Friday too. "It's not an eviction drive but safe footpath campaign," a GBA official said.

JULY	JULY	JULY
1-10	10-15	15 onwards
Safe footpath drive	Removal of abandoned vehicles	Clearing of bulk waste

STREET VENDORS WITH ID CARDS



We have consulted both ruling and opposition MLAs. While pedestrians have primary rights to walkable footpaths on main thoroughfares, we are not abandoning vendors. Out of 60,000 surveyed vendors, 37,000 have applied for vending provisions. A Rs 50-60 crore welfare fund is active to provide subsidised mobile vending solutions on designated side streets

DK Shivakumar,
Chief Minister

Vendors will be shifted, not evicted, says KBG

BENGALURU, DHNS: With a section of citizens opposing the ongoing footpath clearance drive, Greater Bengaluru Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda on Thursday clarified that the government's objective was not to evict street vendors, but relocate them from arterial and sub-arterial roads to ward roads.

Chairing a virtual review meeting with senior officials overseeing the drive, Gowda directed the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) to ensure that the drive targeted all forms of obstruction on footpaths, including abandoned vehicles, illegally parked vehicles and other encroachments, instead of focusing solely on street vendors.

The clarification came a day after the launch of the citywide 'Safe Footpath Campaign' received opposition from street vendors in some commercial areas, with many alleging that vendors with identity cards issued by the corporations

were also evicted.

"The intention is not to disrupt anyone's livelihood. Street vendors can continue their business on alternative roads, leaving major roads. We are relocating them, not evicting them," he said.

He instructed officials to implement the clearance drive in a phased manner across the city.

"If we utilise the existing system effectively, we will gain public support and even seemingly impossible tasks can be achieved. All officials must work in coordination to build smooth, safe and organised footpaths for citizens of Bengaluru," he said.

The minister directed officials to immediately commence development works on stretches where encroachments have already been cleared instead of waiting for completion of the entire drive.

Highlighting another major obstacle to pedestrian movement, Gowda

said removal of ramps constructed over footpaths by residential and commercial property owners for vehicle access would also be taken up in a subsequent phase.

In a video message released earlier in the day, the minister appealed to Bengalureans to cooperate in the government's efforts, saying the campaign had been launched in response to long-standing public demand and directions issued by the Supreme Court.

Gowda reiterated that the government was clearing encroachments only from about 20% of the city's major roads, while vending activities would continue to be permitted on the remaining roads.

GBA chief commissioner M Maheshwar Rao, corporation commissioners Ramesh D S, Pommala Sunil Kumar, G Jagadeesha, Ramesh K N and Dr Rajendra K V, along with chief engineers and senior officials, attended the review meeting.



A shop extension is being removed on the second day of the Safe Footpath Campaign on Thursday. PHOTO: GBA

Official vendor count at 25,403; unions say numbers higher

BENGALURU, DHNS

Even as the Greater Bengaluru Authority's (GBA) Safe Footpath Campaign gathers pace across the city, official records show that Bengaluru has 25,403 recognised street vendors spread across the five municipal corporations.

However, street vendors' unions claim that the actual number of hawkers is significantly higher, with thousands still awaiting recognition under the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014.

Official identity cards - issued by the Town Vending Committees (TVCs) - carry QR codes, registration numbers, vendor details, including his or her family members. The cards also come with validity and contain details of the vending category and exact location where they can carry out their business.

When civic authorities arrived with earthmovers and police personnel to evict street vendors from places like Majestic and Vijayanagar, some vendors succeeded in ensuring their stalls or temporary kiosks were not removed as they were armed with corporation-issued ID cards. But, a few were asked to relocate to internal roads if they were seen running business on arterial and sub-arterial roads.

In the past when there were instances of eviction especially in-



Street vendors seen at Jayanagar 4th block. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

volving senior citizens, women or people with disabilities, the High Court of Karnataka has come to their rescue whenever they faced problems from the civic body.

S Babu, president of the Karnataka Pragathi Para Beedi Vyaparigala Sangha (KPBVS), said the corporations always delayed the process of recognising street vendors. "We estimate that there are not less than 1.5 lakh street vendors in the city but they do not come in the official records. At least 70,000 street vendors had taken loan under PM's SVANidhi scheme. Yet, the corporation does not want to provide protection to vendors by issuing the ID cards."

Some of the street vendors hail from states such as West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh



We estimate that there are not less than 1.5 lakh street vendors in the city but they do not come in the official records. At least 70,000 street vendors had taken loan under PM's SVANidhi scheme. Yet, the corporation does not want to provide protection to vendors by issuing the ID cards.

S Babu, president, KPBVS

and the Northeast. While a few run the business independently, many others work based on daily or weekly salary.

In October 2024, the civic body had initiated a survey to identify the street vendors, which concluded in February last year. The survey reportedly identified about 34,000 street vendors but not all of them got the ID cards.



Authorities clear footpath encroachments from 5th Main, Ganganagar on Thursday. DH PHOTO/B K JANARDHAN

◆ IN THE CITY ◆

GENERAL

Indian Institute of Plantation Management (IIPM): Two-day conference on agricultural technology; IIPM campus, Jnanabharati; 9.30 am.

Desi: Inauguration of 'Desi' shop selling khadi products; C N Ashwathnarayan to take part; Matru Nilaya, East Park Road, 15th Cross Malleshwaram, 11.30 am.

CULTURAL

Nritya Disha Trust: Bharatanatyam by Harshita Sriram, Prarthana Yogananda and Varsha S Ekkkote; ADA Theatre, JC Road, 5 pm.

Surya Kalavidaru: Staging of the play 'Matte Vasanta' directed by Sanchay Ganesh, #247, 6th Block, Sir MV Layout; 6.30 pm.

Drushya Ranga: Staging of TP Kailas's play 'Poli Kittu' directed by A Dakshayini Bhat; Kalagarama, Mallattahalli; 7 pm.

Payana: Staging of the play 'Adavi'

directed by Arun Surya; Seva Sadana, Malleshwaram; 7.15 pm.

RELIGIOUS

Varasiddhi Vinayaka Temple: Maha Kumbhabhisheka; Temple premises, Cox Town, 6 am.

◆ CITY WEATHER ◆

FORECAST

Generally cloudy sky with Light rain

TEMPERATURES

Maximum 29.0°C
Minimum 21.0°C

Rainfall --
Humidity 95%

Sunset (July 3) 6:50 pm
Sunrise (July 4) 5:57 am

Moonrise 8:05 am
Moonset 6:51 pm

Invites to be published in this column should be sent to: incitytoday@deccanherald.co.in. Please note that hard copies will not be accepted

Inter-school literary championship

BENGALURU, DHNS: St Joseph's University will host the 9th edition of its annual inter-school literary championship, Meta Schools 2026, on July 3 and 4.

The fest has events in both the junior (Classes 8 to 10) and senior (Classes 11 and 12) categories. Highlights of Meta Schools include workshops in zine making, creative writing, puzzling and elocution.

The contests range from spelling bee, fan fiction and JAM to caption writing, general quiz and science quiz.

To register or for queries, call 73384 24725.

B'luru man killed in hit-and-run case in Bahamas

BENGALURU, DHNS: A Bengaluru resident who recently moved to the Bahamas was killed in a hit-and-run case on June 24.

Sukeerth K V, 29, an employee of Ernst & Young (EY) in the Bahamas, died after being struck by a vehicle while on his routine morning jog in Freeport last week. The only child of a schoolteacher and a store manager, he had moved to the Caribbean 3 months ago. He was a resident of northern Bengaluru.

Despite emergency medical care being provided to him, he passed away.

While the police force swiftly traced the vehicle involved and took the driver into custody, Sukeerth's

family says the process of repatriating his body has been delayed as authorities await a post-mortem.

"There are a limited number of autopsies conducted each week in Freeport; every subsequent step, including issuance of death certificate and embalming, is held up. We have no communication with government officials here or there. It is his company that's helping us," his cousin Shramanth R told DH, hoping to bring the body home for last rites.

Family and friends remember Sukeerth as a gifted musician with a passion for classic rock. Those close to him describe him as the emotional anchor.

Rare Tala series concludes on July 5

BENGALURU, DHNS: Carnatic violinist Kumaresh R will conclude Talapravaham, his series of seven exploratory concerts at Bengaluru Gayana Samaja at 6.30 pm on July 5.

Talapravaham is built on the Sapta Sooladi Talas, the seven foundational rhythmic cycles of south Indian classical music.

Previous editions have explored Dhruva, Matya, Roopaka, Jhampa, Thriputa and Eka talas. The July 5 concert spotlights Ata tala.

Each tala is explored with the accompaniment of a distinct raga, revealing the intersection of mathematics and music.

Free interactive session on brain health

BENGALURU, DHNS: Nonprofit Dementia India Alliance (DIA), in collaboration with Athulya Senior Care, the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (Nimhans) and the Centre for Brain Research (CBR), is organising a free interactive session titled 'Mind Your Brain' on Saturday, from 10 am to 1 pm at CBR, IISc.

The session aims to build awareness about brain health, dementia and healthy ageing, and to encourage lifestyle practices that support cognitive well-being. It will also help participants recognise early signs of dementia, understand key risk factors and appreciate the importance of timely diagnosis and inter-

vention, according to a press release.

The session will feature geriatricians, neurologists, psychiatrists and other healthcare professionals, who will share insights on maintaining brain health across the lifespan, recognising early symptoms of dementia and adopting practical strategies for healthy ageing, followed by an open discussion and question-and-answer session, the release added.

The session is open to adults aged 45 and above, family caregivers, geriatric and healthcare professionals, students and anyone interested in healthy ageing and reducing dementia risk. To register, call 8585 990 990.

Hoax bomb mail to courts in Mysuru

MYSURU, DHNS: Tension prevailed for a while following a bomb scare e-mail to the District Court on Krishnaraja Boulevard and at Family Court in Jayanagar, Malalavadi on Thursday. The mail prompted immediate security sweeps by the police, but was declared hoax later. According to the police, a message of bomb threat was received on the court's official mail ID at 1.50 am on Thursday. The message read, "We have planted a bomb in the court. Do not take this lightly."

Judge Usharani immediately alerted the city police officials.

Greens come together to oppose Kambala during Dasara

MYSURU, DHNS: The opposition for hosting Kambala on the sidelines of this year's Mysuru Dasara is gaining momentum with green activists coming together to form an action forum for opposing the proposal. The state government has proposed to hold Kambala, the buffalo race, a native's sport of coastal Karnataka, during Dasara this year. However, members of various organisations and farmers groups are opposing it, claiming that it would affect the environment. In a meeting of activists, led by Parisarakkagi Naavu on Thursday, it was unanimously decided to strongly oppose the Kambala during Dasara. The meeting also decided to form an action committee, comprising representatives of the organisations present in the meeting to oppose against hosting Kambala. Naada Habba Dasara, which includes Jamboo Savari, has a unique tradition and culture, followed over hundreds of years. Events like Kambala may affect the true identity of Mysuru Dasara, they opined. Environmentalists expressed concern that it may cause ecological disturbance as the authorities may have to fell trees to accommodate the event, which requires more than 20 acres of land besides 10 acres for parking and other purpose. It would also attract a large crowd, that may congest the city, and affect the environment.

Despite free power, Karnataka warms up to solar rooftops

Installations increase from 10 MW to 900 MW in a decade

SNEHA RAMESH
BENGALURU, DHNS

The solar rooftop adoption in Karnataka has increased drastically over the last decade with increasing awareness and government push. In 2015-16, Karnataka had only about 11 MW of solar rooftop installations, which have now reached 900 MW, according to Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited (KREDL) data reviewed by *DH*. Adoption of solar rooftop systems has been especially high over the last three years with over 100 MW of installations coming up annually, the data shows. While residential buildings have lagged behind in adopting

solar rooftop systems owing to the Gruha Jyothi scheme that offers 200 units of free electricity, many new bigger constructions are now installing rooftop solar systems, officials from Bescom said. "We have been trying to increase awareness and the uptake even from smaller homes. However, the response has been slow. On the other hand, many of the bigger houses that are now being constructed have a solar rooftop since they feel it is more reliable and sustainable," Dr N Shivashankar, Managing Director, Bescom, told *DH*. Larger residential buildings which do not get the benefits of the Gruha Jyothi scheme are also transitioning into solar power. Even government buildings



While residential buildings have lagged behind in adopting solar rooftop systems owing to the Gruha Jyothi scheme that offers 200 units of free electricity, many new bigger constructions are now installing rooftop solar systems, officials from Bescom said.

are increasingly setting up solar rooftop systems. In 2025, the health department, under the Saura Swasthya initiative, started solarising healthcare facilities and so far over 3,500 health centres across the state have been solar powered. There is a demand to install such systems in the commercial sector as well, industry experts said.

"Many commercial establishments are installing such systems since the returns are good and power supply is reliable. However, like the subsidy provided for the residential sector, if there are some incentives for other sections, the uptake will increase even more," said KLH Raya from Karnataka Renewable Energy Systems Manufacturers' Association (KRESMA).

Rooftop solar commissioned each year

YEAR	CAPACITY
2014-15	0.38 MW
2015-16	10.63 MW
2016-17	66.62 MW
2017-18	57.51 MW
2018-19	44.05 MW
2019-20	49.62 MW
2020-21	45.83 MW
2021-22	77.18 MW
2022-23	79.56 MW
2023-24	121.83 MW
2024-25	165.18 MW
2025-26	181.14 MW
2026-27 (till April)	18.62 MW

Senior officials from the energy department said that many industries are also opting to install such systems. "They have realised that this is the future, so many are keen on adopting it. Adoption by such big establishments will add to the growth of renewable energy immensely," a senior official from the energy department said.

TASK CUT OUT

SIR: A day with a Booth Level Officer on Bengaluru's door-to-door voter verification drive

AMULLYA SHIVASHANKAR
BENGALURU, DHNS

At sharp 9.30 am, Booth Level Officer (BLO) Padma MV starts knocking on doors to collect voter ID details, distribute enumeration forms and educate residents about the process and importance of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR). A Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) employee, she has been deputed as a BLO in RR Nagar. On Thursday, this *DH* reporter observed firsthand both the palpable anxiety among residents and the daily struggles faced by officials like Padma. As she went from house to house, only a handful of residents responded appropriately and produced the required documents. Despite widespread discussion and media coverage of the SIR, awareness remained low. Many residents appeared visibly upset when the officer knocked on their doors asking for their voter ID cards. For people worried about their votes being registered in their hometowns, Padma explained how to navigate the Election Commission



Booth Level Officer (BLO) Padma MV pastes a sticker at a resident's house at RR Nagar as part of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the voter roll in Bengaluru on Thursday. *DH* PHOTOS/PUSHKAR V

of India website or app. By entering their EPIC or voter ID number, they can apply for the SIR online and access the details of their polling booth official. Once the application is completed, the respective BLO is alerted to verify and approve it, provided all the details are correct. For those who were voters in 2002, when the SIR was last conducted, details of their enrolment and voting in 2002 must be mentioned in the enumeration form.



Padma interacts with a resident at RR Nagar to distribute enumeration forms.

Those who were not eligible to vote in 2002 must instead provide the details of an eligible relative, such as their father or mother, Padma explained. After collecting a resident's voter ID details, Padma checks the ECI website to identify their polling booth. If the voter falls under her jurisdiction, she provides the enumeration form immediately. If not, she has to return to the local Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) office in the evening, collect the forms for those voters and deliver them the next day.

Each BLO is assigned a polling booth, a designated geographical boundary and the forms for residents in that area. However, residents living within a BLO's assigned boundary do not necessarily vote at that officer's designated booth. "The chaos of exchanging forms is the major problem with this exercise. After an entire day, we sometimes do not find even a single person belonging to our own booth," she said. BLOs have time until July 29, 2026, to complete the door-to-door verification, distribute the enumeration forms and collect them back for the preparation of the draft electoral rolls. "We often miss working people during our visits. We keep returning at different times to find them, which takes up a lot of our time. We usually visit a house three times before marking the residents as unavailable," she added. Once Padma hands over the form to a family, she pastes a sticker indicating that the house has been covered during the verification. She ends her day exchanging forms with fellow officials and planning the next day's work.

Cong favours state poll panel's voter list for GBA polls

BENGALURU, DHNS

Even as the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) is underway, the governing Congress is pushing for the use of electoral rolls prepared by the State Election Commission (SEC) for the upcoming Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) polls. The Supreme Court has asked the government to complete the GBA polls before August 31, which the Congress wants cite as the grounds for which electoral rolls prepared by the SEC should be used. There are 88.95 lakh voters in the state capital, according to the electoral rolls finalised by the SEC. Late on Wednesday evening, Karnataka Congress president B K Hariprasad met Chief Minister D K Shivakumar and discussed the GBA polls. "We don't expect the SIR to have an impact on the electoral rolls for the GBA polls," a top Congress leader said. As per the SIR timeline, the draft electoral rolls will be out on August 5. The rolls, based on SIR, will be finalised in October. "We don't think that this timeline is compatible with the Supreme Court's direction that the GBA poll process should conclude before August 31. We expect the election notification to come out in mid-July," the leader said. The Congress is also planning two manifestos for Bengaluru voters. One manifesto will cater to non-native voters, especially in areas like Mahadevapura and KR Puram. Another manifesto will speak to voters in the core city areas. "Each of the five municipal corporations has different problems," the leader said. According to the Congress' poll forecast, the party stands to win two corporations and the BJP two.



Greater Bengaluru Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda inspects the Outer Ring Road on Thursday night. PHOTO/KBC OFFICE

KBG slams officials for digging up new ORR stretch

BENGALURU, DHNS: Greater Bengaluru Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda inspected the Outer Ring Road between Lowry and Silk Board junction late on Thursday night. Accompanied by senior officials from the GBA, the BWSSB, B-SMILE and the Bengaluru East City Corporation, he reviewed the plan to develop the 17.1-km stretch from Silk Board to Baiyappanahalli Metro Station to global design standards. At Lowry Junction, he directed officials to check for footpath encroachments and take action, rectify Bescom power lines hanging at a height that risks pedestrian safety, carry out proper re-

pairs to the service road and ensure a uniform design for bus bays, service roads, footpaths, drains and medians while executing the project. At Doddanekundi Junction, he pulled up officials for failing to fill potholes on the service road. "Should we have to come here and remind you to do your job? Why was the road allowed to be dug up? Why was Bescom allowed to excavate the road? Why was the road dug up just six months after it was asphalted? It was dug up overnight. Bring a JCB immediately and excavate the spot. Let us find out whether it was Bescom or an OFC cable. The road was newly laid; who permitted it to be dug up?"

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Live-in couples still face family bias

A rising number of cohabiting, unmarried couples are seeking therapy to navigate family resistance and the resulting emotional toll

BARKHA KUMARI
TEAM METROLIFE

Despite multiple Supreme Court judgments and constitutional backing, many consenting adults in Bengaluru face intense parental opposition to live-in relationships. Counsellors note an increase in couples seeking help compared to five years ago, as family hostility severely impacts their mental health and relationships.

The issue also surfaced as one of the angles of the investigation into the K R Puram 'triple murder case' last month. Shweta allegedly teamed up with her live-in partner Kenneth to kill her parents and younger sister. She told police that her parents opposed the couple living together and questioned her movements. She said the lack of freedom at home pushed her into mental distress.

Guilt tactics

Counsellors say family objections over caste, class, religion or a partner's personality are common in all relationships, but live-in couples face an additional layer of resistance. Many parents, especial-



Therapists say they are approached by live-in couples aged 25 to 42, including divorced individuals and single parents. PIC FOR REPRESENTATION

ly conservative ones, see living together outside marriage as a rejection of their values and upbringing, says Deepapriya Vishwanathan, senior consulting psychologist at Amaha. "They say, 'We allowed you to live on your terms, but you went behind our back and violated our trust'. They also question the partner, saying, 'If this person can live-in with you, they can do it with others too,'" she says.

Most resistance, she adds, is passive-aggressive and coercive rather than violent. "Parents may ignore the partner. Daughters are shamed, and sons are labelled disappointments. When these children visit home, families may stop them from leaving, and threaten to cut

off financial support or disown them."

Sneha Fernandes, relationship therapist and marriage coach, says only half the live-in couples she counsels have told their parents about their "arrangement", and about 60% of them face pressure to break up. "Parents blackmail them by saying, 'I will commit suicide'. Some track their children's whereabouts. At times, they send relatives or hire goons to force the couple to separate," says the founder of Bangalore Counselling.

Manjula Veeraraghavan, a clinical psychologist and couples therapist with The Chosen Family, says the pressure is always subtle but "intended to make children feel guilty for their personal

choices and for ignoring parents who have sacrificed so much for them". "Some ask their children to quit their jobs and stay at home," she says.

Neither a victory

Clinical psychologist and couples therapist Meghna says about 20% of her clients in live-in relationships seek help only after spending "months or years" trying to navigate family pressure. Consequently, they arrive emotionally exhausted, anxious, guilty, and sleep-deprived from balancing parental loyalty with relationship commitment. This continuous external conflict heavily strains otherwise stable relationships, leaving couples deeply uncertain about their future, she adds.

Therapists say most couples persevere until "the environment turns actively hostile". "Those who are financially independent are more likely to stick to the relationship," says Deepapriya.

But whichever choice they make, the emotional toll is often high. Sneha recalls a woman who came to therapy with bruises after visiting her family in north India. "Her father had beaten her, and her mother cursed her, saying she would never be happy. She married her partner without their consent, but the estrangement continued to traumatise her, so much so that she needed therapy," she says.

Deepapriya remembers a client with depressive symptoms who ended his six-year live-in relationship after being told his mother had been hospitalised

LEGAL RECOURSE

Advocate Harikrishnan R says live-in couples facing aggression from their families can approach the local police or the high court. He recalls representing a Dalit man in a live-in relationship with a woman from an influential upper-caste family. "Her family barged into the couple's house, assaulted the man, took the woman away and confined her. We filed a habeas corpus petition. Under pressure, the woman told the court she didn't know my client. We lost the case," he says. A week later, however, she eloped and returned to him. The couple is now married.

because of the 'shame'. He later learnt it was staged, she says.

Those who choose their partner risk losing their familial support system, which is crucial during pregnancy and while raising children, says Sneha. And those who end the relationship, Meghna says, are often left with "regret, unresolved grief and resentment towards their families, which also affects future relationships".

Sometimes, Manjula says, neither choice is a victory. "People from controlling families can end up with controlling partners because they have never experienced what a healthy relationship looks like."



Mohammed Anees during one of his rescue operations.

The man who 'understood' snakes

Mohammed Anees, city's beloved snake rescuer, leaves behind a legacy of compassion

SUBHASHINI RAMASAMY
TEAM METROLIFE

A good human, a trusted friend, a skilled animal rescuer, a mentor, a man of calm demeanor — that is how friends and fellow rescuers remember Mohammed Anees, Bengaluru's renowned snake rescuer. The 55-year-old passed away on June 30 after being hospitalised for 12 days. He was diagnosed with pneumonia and had been struggling with breathlessness.

Fondly known as 'Snake Anees', he has rescued thousands of snakes across the city, trained other rescuers, conducted awareness sessions, and even participated in crocodile rescue operations. Anees actively collaborated with forest departments and government and non-governmental organisations.

The art of coexistence

Naveed Irfan, Anees' friend and senior from St Germain High School, shares that the rescuer's fascination dates back to their school days. "He must have been a teenager when he first picked up an injured snake. Back then, he may not have known much about snakes and venoms," says Naveed. Young Anees, despite facing opposition from his family due to the risks involved, continued to rescue snakes.

Naveed, who occasionally accompanied his friend during rescue operations, recalls an incident where a Nagarbhavi resident complained about how snakes had become a nuisance. "Anees gently reminded them what 'Nagarbhavi' translates to (well of snakes). He then asked who was really encroaching on whose home," says Naveed.

Anees, the 'guru'

For snake rescuer Mohan K, who worked alongside Anees for 16 years, he was more than a mentor — he was his 'guru'. Mohan, who feared snakes initially, credits Anees for making him feel at ease. "We would pin the head of the snake while catching it, and this would cause the head to swell. My heart would race at the sight," says Mohan. "To make it easier, Anees devised a method which involved using PVC pipes."

Wildlife rescuer Nagabhushan C S, another of Anees' mentees, vividly remembers his calmness. "He told me if I wished to earn money from rescuing animals, then this was not the place for me; rescue work should stem from a service motive," says Nagabhushan.

Snake rescuer Shuayb Ahmed recalls a line Anees said during a television appearance: "Snakes are the children of a lesser God." These words perhaps sum up Anees' compassion for these misunderstood creatures.

LIQUID NITROGEN IN FOOD

Necessary or avoidable?

Its growing popularity at cafes, restaurants and even street food carts has sparked fresh debates on its safety

RASHMI RAJAGOPAL
TEAM METROLIFE

In 2024, the Karnataka government banned the use of liquid nitrogen "while serving food", after a boy died from consuming it from a paan vendor. The easy availability of the substance is a major cause for concern, and stricter regulations and safety checks are required, say food safety experts. The government does not restrict its use in cooling or preparing food.

Some agencies like Pai Air Products, with units in Mysuru Road and Peenya, have stopped selling liquid nitrogen to customers buying it for freezing simple snacks like biscuits, after a recent mishap. "We sell about 1,000 litres of it per day. Anyone with a cryogenic cylinder can purchase it. It does not require any special permits, unless one is installing a tank," says Adithi Pai. Apart from restaurants and chefs, it is also bought for freezing animal semen for artificial insemination and for industrial purposes like shrink fitting and laser cutting.

Better regulation

Rangaswamy C E, president of the Karnataka Beedhi Badhi Vyaapari Sanghatane Okkuta, told *Metrolife* that none of the vendors under the association uses liquid nitrogen. However, he shared that the GBA has failed in setting up an



Liquid nitrogen biscuits sold by city street vendors can be fatal if handled improperly. DH FILE PHOTO

efficient system to regulate and support street food vendors. Officials from GBA did not respond to calls from *Metrolife*.

Chef Johnson Ebenezer, who runs an experimental farm-to-fork restaurant, Farmlore, uses the substance extensively in his menu. The restaurant gets its liquid nitrogen from Pai Air Products. Cryogenic cylinders with capacities of 10 and 25 litres are sent to the agency to be filled, for Rs 71 per litre. "Using unsuitable containers that are not designed for cryogenic liquids can increase the risk of pressure build-up and accidents," says Dr Anupama N K, a senior gastroenterologist who consults at a prominent hospital in Hebbal.

The boiling point of nitrogen is -196 C, whereas a regular freezer is about -18 C. "So it is quite extreme," notes Ramesh Agarwal, CEO of Food Safety Works.

Quick freezing

While the substance does not influence

taste in any way, the speed at which it freezes food makes it convenient for chefs and allows for experimentation. The theatricality of the heavy smoke, the liquid evaporating, is, of course, the main draw. "As per FSSAI guidelines, the food cannot be served to the customer until all the liquid nitrogen has evaporated. In some cases, when the substance gets trapped in the food, it's easy to miss. That is when it is tragic," explains Johnson. He adds that vendors or chefs using it must go through proper training on safe practices, because it's tricky to handle.

Exercise caution

Even a small amount left in the food can cause severe burns to the mouth, throat or stomach, but it is perfectly safe if handled the right way, notes Dr Anupama. "Never eat or drink anything that is still producing thick white fog or visible vapour as it indicates that the liquid nitrogen has not yet fully evaporated," she states, adding that touching it with one's hands can lead to frostbite and tissue damage.

If someone swallows it and experiences severe pain, burns, difficulty breathing or swelling, immediate medical attention can prevent serious complications. "If it reaches the stomach before it has fully evaporated, it turns into gas, which causes severe bloating that can rupture the stomach. The lips, tongue, throat and oesophagus, which come in contact with it first, will also be affected. Even inhaling large amounts of nitrogen gas in poorly ventilated areas, where oxygen is low, can lead to dizziness, headaches, confusion, shortness of breath and loss of consciousness," she points out.

City to host India's first Thai actor fan meet

Thai BL (Boys' Love) star Katsamonnat Namwirote, better known to millions of fans as Cooheart, is all set to create ripples later this month in Bengaluru with the city hosting India's first-ever Thai actor fan meet. Organised by Pop-IN-Asia, the event titled 'Blooming Earth' marks a significant milestone for the country's rapidly growing Thai entertainment fandom.

Over the past few years, the Thai Wave has gained momentum in India, with Thai dramas, music and celebrities attracting a loyal audience. Cooheart, loved for his performances in 'Until We Meet Again' and 'Between Us', has emerged as one of the genre's most recognisable faces.

The excitement was evident as premium VIP tickets sold out within minutes of going live. Be-

yond stage appearances, 'Blooming Earth' is also promising interactive games and candid conversations.

On Sunday, July 19, from 3.30 pm onwards at Samarthanam Auditorium, HSR Layout. Tickets on Popinasia.in



Katsamonnat Namwirote

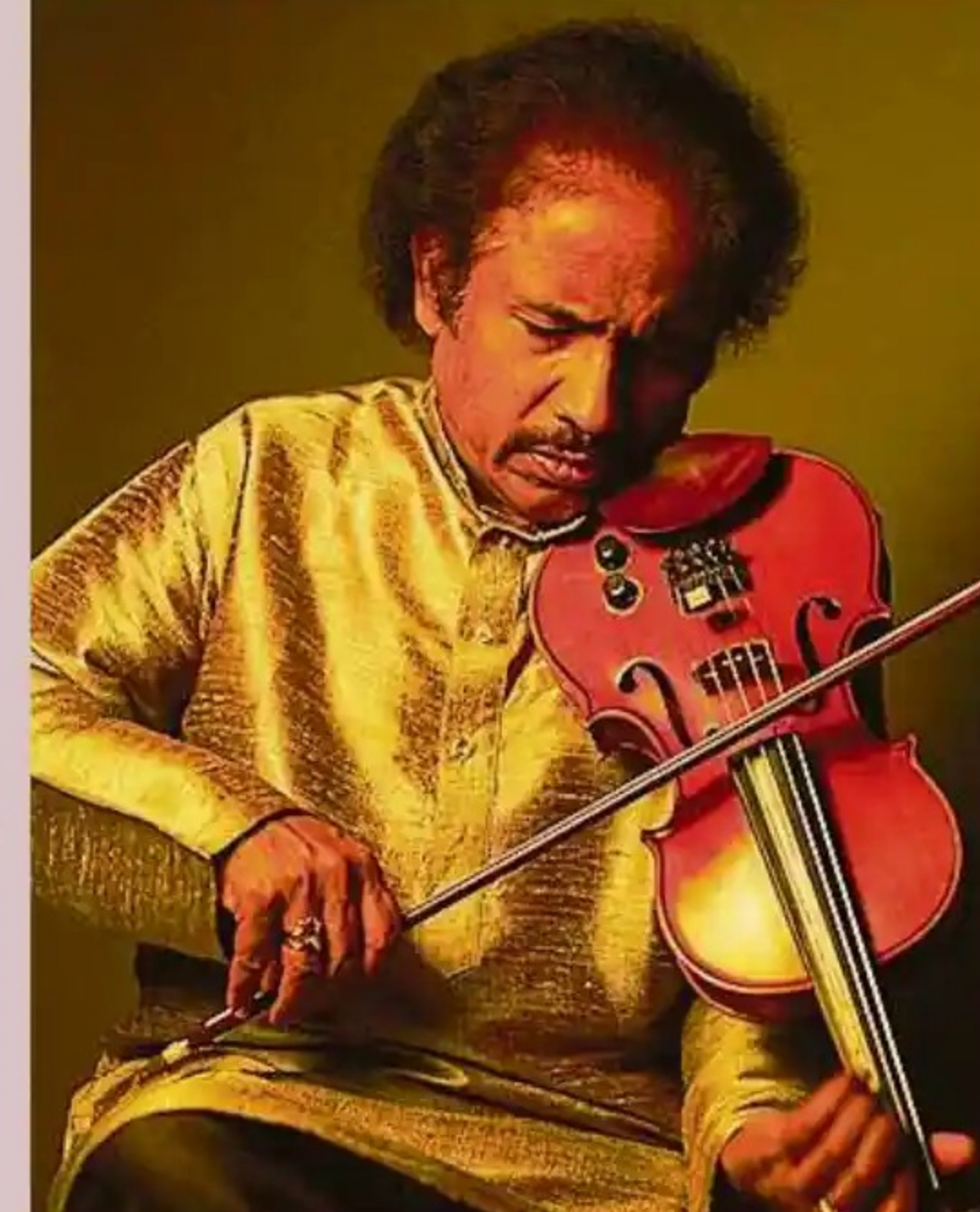


FARNAZ

CITY MIX

Anniversary concert by Dr L Subramaniam

The Indian Music Experience Museum celebrates its seventh anniversary with a special concert by violin maestro Dr L Subramaniam on July 11, 7 pm at MLR Convention Centre, Whitefield. Marking seven years of promoting India's musical heritage, the Padma Vibhushan awardee will perform with an ensemble of musicians including Frijio Francis (on key-board), Alwyn Fernandes (guitar), Keith Peters (bass guitar), Humtoo (flute), Jeoraj George (drums), V V Ramanamurthy (mridanga), Tanmoy Bose (tabla), and Supriya Bhattacharya (congas). For details, check @indianmusicexperience on Instagram. Tickets on in.bookmy-show.com



Dr L Subramaniam

Panel discussion on AI and literature

'Call Me Ishmael, Unless the Algorithm Has Other Ideas', a panel discussion will be held at the Bangalore International Centre, Domlur, on July 5, 11.30 am. It will feature Natasha Joshi, director of The Deodar Prize; author Lavanya Lakshminarayan; Ranjeet Pratap Singh, cofounder and CEO with Pratilipi, with Karthik Venkatesh, executive editor of Penguin Random House India, moderating the session. The event will explore AI's impact on creativity, publishing, authorship and ethics. Entry free. RSVP at bangaloreinternational-centre.org

Contemporary group exhibition

The 8 Edit, a contemporary group exhibition curated by Duarte Haus founders Henna Bajaj and Divya Murali, will be open for public viewing at Venkatappa Art Gallery from July 6 to 12, 10.30 am to 7 pm. Bringing together over 180 artworks by more than 25 artists, the exhibition will showcase pieces created in an 8x8-inch format across genres including abstract, expressionism, contemporary Indian folk, tonalism and geometric art. Entry free. For details, check duartehaus.com or @duarte.haus on Instagram.

Themed walkthrough

A themed walkthrough, titled 'The Elephant in the Room,' will re-examine food systems and shed light on edible insects, endangered fish species, native rice varieties, and more, on July 5, 12 noon, at Science Gallery, Hebbal. To register, visit calorie.scigalleryblr.org

To get your event listed, write to metrolife@deccanherald.co.in

Once Upon a FRAME



A 'road train' on its way to Gandhi Bazaar in 1966. DH ARCHIVES/T L RAMASWAMY



The new low-floor EV buses are now a common sight in the city. DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

Before Bengaluru's tech boom, did you know there were oddly-named contraptions called 'road trains' plying the city? In the nostalgic MYF-plate days of the 1960s, these elongated giants rumbled through town, forcing commuters to 'swalpa munde banni' inside twin passenger sections. Route 11 (pictured), linking Gandhi Bazaar to IISc, must have certainly been well-traversed. But as local traffic increased, these monstrous behemoths became too unwieldy and expensive, getting axed by the 1980s. Today, sleek electric buses with 'KA' plates have replaced those vintage workhorses. Modern drivers now battle battery failures and frequent breakdowns. Technology may have evolved, but Bengaluru's gridlock rules. And the daily commute is still about wrestling with 'munde banni' and 'hinde hogi'.

Once Upon A Frame is a monthly column that revisits Bengaluru through then-and-now photographs, pairing archival images with frames from the same spots today. From vanished facades to surviving street corners, readers are invited to send in old photographs, memories, and suggestions for places they would like us to revisit across the city. Write to

metrolife@deccanherald.co.in

7 die after boulder crashes on workers at quarry in B'luru

Quarry, from Page 1

Personnel from the Fire and Emergency Services' Magadi and Sunkadakatte fire stations rushed to the spot and launched a rescue operation. The bodies were sent for postmortem examination while the injured were taken to nearby hospitals.

Senior police officers and officials from the Department of Mines and Geology visited the spot.

Tavarekere police registered a case under BNS Section 105 (punishment for culpable homicide not amounting to murder).

'Criminal act'

Speaking to reporters at the tragedy site, local MLA ST Somashekhar stated that the incident was not merely a case of negligence but a "criminal incident" and claimed that officials

from the Department of Mines and Geology and the local police were complicit in allowing an illegal quarry to operate.

He said that he had brought the issue to the notice of the then chief minister Siddaramaiah after the death of a leopard in a nearby locality, adding that he had also raised the issue in the Assembly, urging the authorities to stop the illegal quarrying activities, but no action was taken.

Somashekhar said he would again raise the issue with Chief Minister D K Shivakumar and demand stringent action against those responsible for the incident.

Speaking to reporters at the Vidhana Soudha, CM Shivakumar said the police and officials from the Department of Mines and Geology had visited the site. Preliminary information suggested that the incident was not

caused by an explosion, he said. "The government will verify whether the quarry was being operated legally and if all mandatory safety norms were being followed," he said.

Responding to allegations by the local MLA that an earlier quarry blast in the area had been covered up without a proper investigation, Shivakumar said he would comment only after getting the official report.

On compensation for the victims' families, he said the government would first ascertain the final casualty figures before announcing relief.

"Declaring compensation in haste will not bring back the dead. There is due process, and the affected families will certainly be compensated. More importantly, steps must be taken to ensure such tragedies do not recur," he said.

Situation dire,... Sowing, from Page 1

Minister said that if any village faces drinking water problems, instructions have been given to resolve it within 24 hours.

"Water is being drawn from private open wells and borewells and supplied through tankers. Borewells are being dug only in extreme cases," he clarified.

"Water levels in reservoirs are falling. It has been raining for the past 2-3 days, and some reservoirs are receiving inflows. In this time of crisis, people must use water sparingly," Khandre told officials.

Meanwhile, Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka has asked Shivakumar to initiate drought relief measures on a war footing and warned against delay in declaring drought-hit areas as it would affect crop loss assessments and compensation.

Ashoka mocked that the Agriculture department still had no full-time minister.

SIR: Document gaps, spelling mismatches worry Muslims

SIR, from Page 1

"Since mid-June, we have begun teaching people how to fill out the forms when BLOs approach them. I have created draft forms and am sitting with each voter to fill these forms. Every day, I help fill out about 40 draft forms. People can use these draft forms as a reference when the BLOs arrive," he said, adding that he had also received calls for assistance from a few Christian communities.

Other entrepreneurs, IT professionals and students have also taken up volunteering as a priority. Temporary assistance camps have been set up in areas like Fraser Town, Mahadevapura, RT Nagar, Rajajinagar, KR Puram and Brunton Road, among other localities.

"We are doing this for the safety of our future generations. They should not be a target of discrimination because of the community they belong to. I don't want my children and grandchildren to think we sat mum when this was happening in our country," said Anwer A M, president of the Okalipuram mosque, who has been running a voter assistance help desk with the help of volunteers for the past 15 days.

Earlier this week, in a representation to the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), the Karnataka Rajya Muslim Okkoota cited the risk of arbitrary deletions without show-cause notices or reasoned orders, name mismatches caused by transliteration and spelling variations, household mapping errors, and the absence of bilingual forms for non-Kannada speakers.

"Name mismatches are a big

problem for the community. Because many names cannot be spelt in Kannada, they are often misspelt. For example, Tabrez becomes Tabrej in Kannada, and hence, because of transliteration, it is misspelt in English," said Hares Siddiqui, convener of the organisation, highlighting the lack of a grievance redress platform as a major concern.

"There are several anomalies. There have been many complaints that the helpline to reach out to the BLOs is inaccessible," he added.

The Active Bengaluru Foundation has also helped to guide with the SIR process.

Even as election officials maintain that the exercise is intended to improve the accuracy of electoral rolls, the community's outreach efforts reflect widespread apprehension and a push to safeguard voting rights.

"The community has recognised that SIR is nothing but repackaged NRC. So the sense of panic is valid. The Supreme Court's judgment and the statement of the Election Commissioner have made it clear that this is nothing but NRC," said Vinay Sreenivasa, advocate and civic activist.

"The Election Commission's conduct recently has been such that it has not been fair towards the minorities. Given this situation and the result of SIR in other states has led to a sense of worry among the Muslim community," said Rizwan Arshad, Shivajinagar MLA.

U Nisar Ahmed, chairman, Karnataka State Minorities Commission, said that he has been assured by the CEO that no eligible voter would be eliminated from the electoral rolls.

PYTHON RESCUED



An 11.5-foot long python found in a areca plantation at Chikkamavalli village of Yallapur taluk of Uttara Kannada district on Thursday. DH PHOTO

SC slams fake, AI-generated precedents; quashes verdict

SC, from Page 1

"A decision of a court or an adjudicating authority, based on material which is fake and hallucinated, is no decision at all and amounts to subversion of the rule of law," the bench emphatically stated.

The bench asked the Bar Council of India to urgently constitute a committee to frame guidelines and disciplinary measures to prevent lawyers from submitting fake AI-generated precedents before courts.

In its judgment, the bench likened the spread of AI-hallucinated material in the justice system to the release of methylisocyanate.

"It is invisible, insidious, and catastrophic by the time

anyone notices. It not only contaminates but takes away the very lifeblood of judicial determination," the bench said.

The judgment highlighted the bigger risks of over-dependence on AI, warning that it could gradually erode human thinking, reasoning, and the ability to distinguish between dharma and adharma.

"If thinking is delegated and it forms a habit, it will have serious consequences for the core of human existence," the bench observed.

Describing the pursuit of

truth as a 'saadhana', the court stressed the need for disciplined mental training and scientific temper to maintain the integrity of judicial processes.

The court made it clear that citing non-existent AI-generated judgments amounts to misconduct by advocates, while reliance on such material by judges is a serious lapse.

It directed that any decision tainted even slightly by hallucinated material must be set aside.

"Irrespective of whether

ಕೇಂದ್ರೀಯ ಆಯುರ್ವೇದ ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ
Central Ayurveda Research Institute
Govt. of India, Ministry of Ayush,
Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences
#12, Uttarahalli Manavarthe Kaval, Kanakapura Main Road,
Thalaghattapura post, Bengaluru-560109.
Centre of Excellence awarded by Ministry of Ayush, Govt. of India.
Ph. No. 080-29535034, 29635035, E-mail: nadri-bengaluru@gov.in,
nadri.bengaluru1@gmail.com Website: https://www.cari.gov.in
Advertisement No.02/2026-27 Date: 03.07.2026

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW
A Walk-in-interview for contractual posts will be held at CARI Bengaluru on 13.07.2026. Visit www.cari.gov.in or www.ccras.nic.in for further details.
Sd/-
Asst. Director In charge

PM SHRI KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA MEG & CENTRE
ST. JOHNS ROAD, BANGALURU - 560 042. Ph.: 080-25365053.
E-mail : kvmegbangalore@gmail.com, Website : megcentre.kvs.ac.in

WALK - IN - INTERVIEW
In order to prepare the Selection List (Panel) of Teachers on Contract basis for PM Shri Kendriya Vidyalaya MEG & Center, Bangalore, the interview of the candidates (18 to 65 age group) will be conducted. All the candidates should appear for interview at PM SHRI KV MEG & Center at their own cost along with original and photocopies of certificates and passport size photograph. Registration 9.00 a.m.

Interview Date	Post
24.07.2026	PGT - Pol. Science, Physics, History, Economics.
	TGT - Social Studies
	Primary Teacher, Balvatika
	Counsellor, Art Coach, Sports Coach, Yoga, Kannada Teacher, Music / Dance Coach

Candidates must register through the below link <https://samvida-sathi.kvs.gov.in>
Note : For Qualification and other details kindly visit the Website : www.megcentre.kvs.ac.in
Sd/- Principal,
PM SHRI KV MEG & Centre, Bengaluru

भारत सरकार
कार्पोरेट कार्य मंत्रालय
कॉर्पोरेट समापन प्रसंस्करण केंद्र (सी-पेस),
आई.आई.सी.ए. बिल्डिंग, 7वीं मंज़िल,
प्लॉट P-6, 7, 8, से-5, आई.एम्.टी. मानेसर, गुर्गांव,
हरियाणा - 122050.
Email: roc.cpace@mca.gov.in

Government of India
Ministry of Corporate Affairs
Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (C-PACE)
ICA Building, 7th Floor,
Plot P-6,7,8, Sector-5, IMT Manesar,
Gurgaon, Haryana - 122050.
Email: roc.cpace@mca.gov.in

FORM No. STK -6
PUBLIC NOTICE
[Pursuant to sub-section (2) and sub-section (4) of section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 and rule 7 of the Companies (Removal of Names of Companies from the Register of Companies) Rules, 2016]

Public : ROC/C-PACE/STK-2/248(2)/2026-27/617
Date: 23/06/2026

Reference:			
In the matter of striking off or removal of names of (50) companies in the state of Karnataka under section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 in respect of:			
S No.	Work Item	CIN	Company Name
1	AC3974409	U85100KA2022PTC164189	BELGAUM HEALTHCARE PRIVATE LIMITED
2	AC3975439	U74999KA2019PTC121472	HKB RETAILS PRIVATE LIMITED
3	AC3954736	U40102KA2012PTC065708	ACS GREEN ENERGY PRIVATE LIMITED
4	AC3946900	U46909KA2025PTC204303	EOCELITE ENERGY SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
5	AC4000596	U72900KA2008PTC047028	NILE MICRO SYSTEMS PRIVATE LIMITED
6	AC3921285	U73100KA2025PTC202820	SEEK SIMPLE SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
7	AC3922923	U52609KA2022PTC162641	VJP VENTURES PRIVATE LIMITED
8	AC4027884	U62020KA2024PTC190305	AGJAMPUR CONSULTANCY SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
9	AC3907721	U31900KA2021PTC152823	AUTONETIC CONTROLS PRIVATE LIMITED
10	AC3910720	U62013KA2024PTC185798	AMGUS LABS PRIVATE LIMITED
11	AC3893755	U31500KA2008PTC048475	RASMI LIGHTING & ENERGY INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
12	AC3867647	U72900KA2021PTC148033	MSVR TECHNOLOGY SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
13	AC3850567	U93000KA2016PTC097847	KINGSMAN SECURITY AND MANPOWER SERVICE PRIVATE LIMITED
14	AC3660107	U74999KA2017PTC102797	VEPRIM DATA LABS PRIVATE LIMITED
15	AC3955059	U74999KA20170PC108995	ASMITHE TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS (OPC) PRIVATE LIMITED
16	AC4025568	U55209KA2018PTC116000	SUAILA DELICACIES PRIVATE LIMITED
17	AC4008149	U68200KA2024PTC185251	SONUS PROP CONSULTING PRIVATE LIMITED
18	AC3983544	U80301KA2022PTC163428	ES60BASTA EDTECH INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
19	AC3870925	U62020KA2025OPC198593	HEXAFLOUR TECHNOLOGY (OPC) PRIVATE LIMITED
20	AC3761734	U80300KA2020PTC136424	FWD LEARNING PRIVATE LIMITED
21	AC3961614	U74999KA2020PTC134920	LYKKEY TECHNOLOGY PRIVATE LIMITED
22	AC3986605	U62099KA2023PTC179822	NAMOTI TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
23	AC3962801	U62099KA2023PTC171489	PARCEJET TECH MATRIX PRIVATE LIMITED
24	AC3973056	U74999KA2021PTC151938	R S INFRALINE PRIVATE LIMITED
25	AC3958556	U70200KA2023PTC182287	JISHANA SIRSANGI PRIVATE LIMITED
26	AC3981162	U69100KA2025PTC198172	ANAYO LEGAL PRIVATE LIMITED
27	AC3954336	U70109KA2022PTC164228	NEIGHBOURING NESTS REALTY PRIVATE LIMITED
28	AC3906589	U01100KA2022PTC157422	CAIRNS & MARKS TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
29	AC3897892	U62091KA2024PTC183011	SIPLUSPLUS SEMICONDUCTOR PRIVATE LIMITED
30	AC3888709	U72900KA2022PTC160689	AATHANNA TECHNOLOGY PRIVATE LIMITED
31	AC3882638	U86100KA2026PTC218426	PRASANNA HOSPITAL PRIVATE LIMITED
32	AC3891417	U72200KA2018PTC109667	MILLOR TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
33	AC3845381	U28199KA2024OPC189953	SHOINOZ RESEARCH (OPC) PRIVATE LIMITED
34	AC3859831	U72900KA2022PTC163099	CBCORE IT SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
35	AC3808073	U55100KA2019PTC130821	BUTTER STORIES HOSPITALITY PRIVATE LIMITED
36	AC4006894	U70100KA2016PTC085297	REYA PROPERTIES PRIVATE LIMITED
37	AC3468965	U85300KA2018PTC117226	SISHA PHARMA INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED
38	AC3996916	U52100KA2015PTC084691	PRICEJET RETAILS PRIVATE LIMITED
39	AC3477190	U74999KA2020PTC134393	TASKOPERATION ONLINE SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
40	AC3483932	U72200KA2018PTC115845	SEDULOUS SOFTWARE PRIVATE LIMITED
41	AC3811013	U01409KA2021PTC149440	GROWWANTA PRIVATE LIMITED
42	AC3773996	U62020KA2024PTC184153	UNITOOTH CONSULTING PRIVATE LIMITED
43	AC3780905	U72900KA2017PTC103781	SOUKOS ROBOTS TECHNOLOGY PRIVATE LIMITED
44	AC3875498	U80903KA2019PTC121701	PREDICAL PREPARATIVES PRIVATE LIMITED
45	AC3890643	U93093KA2016PTC094327	RASULASTORY PRIVATE LIMITED
46	AC3720232	U70200KA2024OPC189508	ROYCE BARETTO (OPC) PRIVATE LIMITED
47	AC3727771	U68100KA2025PTC201268	TWIF VENTURES PRIVATE LIMITED
48	AC3734125	U72900KA2021PTC151665	TEQUESOLVE TECHNO SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
49	AC3679196	U74999KA2018PTC119252	HUGO EDGE SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED
50	AC3569927	U63090KA2016PTC087068	HOPINMOVE PRIVATE LIMITED

2. Notice is hereby given that the Registrar of Companies has received applications from the above-mentioned companies under section 248(2) of the Companies Act, 2013 for removal of its/their name (s) from the register of companies either on the ground that they have failed to commence business within one year of their incorporation or on the ground that the company(ies) is/are not carrying on any business or operation for a period of two immediately preceding financial years and has/have not made any application (s) within such period for obtaining the status of a dormant company under section 455 of the Companies Act, 2013 or the company(ies) have obtained the status of dormant company/subscribers to the memorandum have not paid the subscription which they had undertaken to pay at the time of incorporation of a company and a declaration to this effect has not been filed within one hundred and eighty days of its incorporation under subsection (1) of section 10A/ have not been carrying on any business or operations, as revealed after the physical verification carried out under sub-section (9) of section 12, but it/they do not wish to continue its/their registration as companies and have, therefore, requested for removal/strike off of its/their names from the register of companies.

3. Accordingly, the Registrar of Companies proposes to remove or strike off the names of the above-mentioned companies from the Register of Companies.

4. Any person objecting to the proposed removal or striking off name of the companies from the register of companies may send his or her objection to the office address mentioned here above within thirty days from the date of publication of this notice.

Irkan Tirkey
Deputy Registrar
Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION (ISRO),
LIQUID PROPULSION SYSTEMS CENTRE (LPSC)
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE DIVISION,
80 Ft. Road, HAL II Stage, Bengaluru. Ph No: 080-25037203/080-25037214.

Date: 02.07.2026

e-TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the President of India, Item rate tenders are invited for the following works.

Sl. No.	Name of work and NIT No. & Date	Estimated Amount	EMD	Period of Completion
1	Term Contract for Civil Maintenance works at LPSC(B) Campus, Bengaluru NIT No. : LPSC(B)/ CMD/03/3021/C/MI/01/2026-27, Dated: 02.07.2026	₹ 10.00 Lakhs	₹ 20,000/-	12 Months
2	Term Contract for Civil Maintenance works at LPSC(B) Campus, Tumakuru NIT No. : LPSC(B)/CMD/03/3022/C/MI/011/2026-27, Dated: 02.07.2026	₹ 10.00 Lakhs	₹ 20,000/-	12 Months
3	Term Contract for Electrical Maintenance works at LPSC(B) Campus, Bengaluru NIT No. : LPSC(B)/ CMD/03/3023/E/MI/012/2026-27, Dated: 02.07.2026	₹ 5.00 Lakhs	₹ 10,000/-	12 Months
4	Term Contract for Electrical Maintenance works at LPSC(B) Campus, Tumakuru NIT No. : LPSC(B)/ CMD/03/3024/E/MI/013/2026-27, Dated: 02.07.2026	₹ 5.00 Lakhs	₹ 10,000/-	12 Months

Period of downloading: **From 18.30 hrs. on 02.07.2026 to 14.07.2026 till 23.59 hrs.** Bid Clarification: **From 20.00 hrs. on 02.07.2026 to 15.07.2026 till 10.00 hrs.** Last date and time to reply to bid clarifications: **16.07.2026 up to 17.00 hrs.** Last date and time for receipt of tenders: **17.07.2026 up to 11.00 hrs.** Due date and time of opening of tenders: **17.07.2026 at 11.30 hrs.**

Interested tenderers may please refer www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO. Also detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) for eligibility criteria and other details, which can be downloaded from website www.isro.gov.in, www.lpsc.gov.in

Sd/- Head CMD, LPSC (B)

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
MEGHALAYA STATE SKILL DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY
Grove Site Building 3rd Floor, Keating Road, Shillong, Meghalaya - 793001
Ph No: 0364-2502243 | email: skills-meg@gov.in | www.msdsd.nic.in

No.MSSDS.419/SkillsMegh-ETP/OPS/2022/Vol.I/ 82 Dt: Shillong, the 30th June, 2026

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)
EMPANELMENT AS NATIONAL TRAINING, PLACEMENT & ENTERPRISE PROMOTION PROVIDERS (NTPPs)

The Meghalaya State Skill Development Society (MSSDS), under the Labour Department, Government of Meghalaya, invites **Expressions of Interest (EOI)** for empanelment of **Skill Training Providers** to provide training programs under **Skill Meghalaya**.

Eligible parties can download the **EOI Detailed Document and Forms** from the MSSDS website at www.msdsd.nic.in

For further details and submission guidelines, please refer to the documents provided online.

Sd/-
Executive Director
Meghalaya State Skill Development Society

MIPR No. : 1000
Dated : 02- 07-2026

EASTERN RAILWAY

The following E-tenders are invited by the Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/ (General), Eastern Railway, Sealdah, 2nd Floor, Remote Control Building, Eastern Railway, Kolkata-700014 in connection with the following works:- **Sl. No. 1, Tender No: ELEG-OT-1337-2026-27, Particulars of the work:** Electrical works in connection with "Provision of AI based Facial Recognition system (FRS) integrated with Video Surveillance System at Sealdah station". **Tender Value:** Rs. 14,00,504/- **Earnest Money:** Rs. 28,000/- **Completion period:** 12 months. **Sl. No. 2, Tender No: ELEG-OT-1341-2026-27, Particulars of the work:** Electrical Works in connection to "Raising of platform at Baranagar Road, Dakshineswar, Bally Ghat, Bally Halt, Tala, Park Circus, Lake Gardens, Majerhat, Shyambagar (Total = 16 nos) with cement concreting with all ancillary works under the jurisdiction of Sr. DENI/Sealdah". **Tender Value:** Rs. 75,49,039/- **Earnest Money:** Rs. 1,51,000/- **Completion period:** 08 months. **Tender Publication Date on IREPS:** 30.06.2026 [For Each]. **Bidding Start Date:** 09.07.2026 [For Each]. **Tender Closing Date & Time:** 23.07.2026 at 14:00 hrs. [For Each]. Details of Tender Notice and congemund issued from time to time are available at website www.ireps.gov.in.

SDAH-110/2026-27
Tender Notices are also available at websites : www.er.indianrailways.gov.in or www.ireps.gov.in

Follow us at: @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

अंतरिक्ष विभाग
अंतरिक्ष उपग्रह केंद्र
कैटेवाड रोड अंबावाडी विस्तार क्षेत्र
अहमदाबाद - 380 015 (भारत)
फोन Phone: (079) 26914954, 4953, 4903, 4901

Department of Space
Space Applications Centre
Construction & Maintenance Group
Satellite Road, Ambawadi Vistar
P.O., Ahmedabad - 380 015 (INDIA)

E-TENDER NOTICE

On Behalf of the President of India, EPC (Mode-I) tenders are invited through e-tendering for the following work:

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Estimated cost put to tender (₹)	Period of completion	Earnest money deposit (EMD) (₹)
1.	Planning, Design, Construction, and Commissioning of Technical Centre Building for IN-SPAEC at new Bopal campus, Ahmedabad (Civil, PH, Electrical, AC, Mechanical and allied works in EPC Mode-1).	242.28 Crores	24 Months	2,52,28,000/-

[E-Tender Notice (NIT) No: SAC/CMG/CPHD/CW/EPC-I/02/2026-2027 dated 25.06.2026]

Period during which the tender document can be downloaded: **From 01.07.2026 at 10:30 hrs. to 24.07.2026 upto 23:59 hrs.**

Last date and time for receipt of tenders: **19.08.2026 upto 23:00 hrs.**

For further details Visit: www.isro.gov.in or www.sac.gov.in or www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO.

Note: All future correspondence (Corrigendum) for the above work(s) shall be published only on the websites mentioned above.

Group Director, CMG/SAC

CBC 49107/11/0011/2627

Heavenly Abode

"I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." - 2 Timothy 4:7

DEEPLY CHERISHING OUR BELOVED DAD
A Legacy of Faith

BALRAJ. B
SEP 11, 1964 - JULY 2, 2026
Viewing on Thursday, July 2nd at 6pm at our Residence in Kammanahalli
Funeral Mass on Friday, July 3rd at 2 pm at St. Anthony's Church, TC Palya, Laid to rest at TC Palya Cemetery.
CONTACT : 809546 7305, 96322 94351

25th DEATH ANNIVERSARY



BETSY CHACKO
10.09.1940 - 03.07.2001
Founder of St. Michael's High School
Gedalahalli, Bengaluru- 560 077
A friend to all , A guide to the young
She helped them climb the highest rung
Her love she shared with everyone
A beacon of light she shone so bright.

DH

Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client intends to purchase land together with construction standing thereon of New No. 6, formerly a portion of Old No. 18, Aga Abbas Ali Road, now known as Aga Abbas Ali Road First Cross, Ulsoor, Bangalore-560042, morefully described in the Schedule hereunder, from Smt. Zareena Begum, rlat # New No. 6, Aga Abbas Ali Road 1st Cross, Ulsoor, Civil Station, Bangalore-560 042.

This is to give notice to the Public that any persons who claim any right, title or interest of any nature in or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the Schedule property and/or has any objections of any nature to the transaction should lodge such claim and / or objections in writing with the undersigned together with supporting documents within ten days from this date, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and our clients would proceed to complete the transaction, subject to compliance with the other formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that Piece and Parcel of land together with construction standing thereon of New No. 6, formerly a portion of Old No. 18, Aga Abbas Ali Road, now known as Aga Abbas Ali Road, First Cross, Ulsoor, Bangalore-560 042, ePID No. 5581685903, measuring East: 50 ft, West : 50ft, North: 20 ft and South : 27 ft, in all 1350 sq ft, and bounded on the East by: Private Property New No. 5, Site Old No. 18/2, Aga Abbas Ali Road 1st Cross, West by: Private Property New No. 7, Aga Abbas Ali Road 1st Cross North by: Public Road South by: Private Property

LEGAL AXIS, M.D.RAGHUNATH,
Skanda Kumar ADVOCATES,
No. 109, 1st Floor, Dharamaraja Koli Street, Shivajinagar, Bangalore-11, Ph: 9845131550
legalaxis@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the concerned that, in accordance with the Record Retention and Destruction Policy of V Care Hospital, the medical records of patients for the period 2007 to 2015 have been destroyed after the completion of the prescribed retention period and in compliance with the hospital's management policy. Accordingly, these records are no longer available with the hospital.

Management
V-CARE HOSPITAL
No.29, 1st Main Road, 1st 'A' Cross, Devegowda Road, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore-560 032.
Ph: 080-2343 4372/73/74

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HC stays govt order dropping cases against politicians

Petitioner claims Cabinet decision is without jurisdiction

AMBARISH B
BENGALURU, DHNS

The Karnataka High Court has stayed a government order calling upon public prosecutors to withdraw 52 criminal cases registered against politicians and political workers at police stations across the state.

A division bench of Chief Justice Vibhu Bakhru and Justice K S Hemalekha passed the interim order on a PIL challenging the May 27 order directing public prosecutors to withdraw cases under CrPC Section 321. It directed the government and the Department of Prosecution to file their response by the next date of hearing.

Girish Bharadwaj, a Bengaluru-based advocate, submitted that the authorities had rejected his RTI application for information about details of these cases claiming that the information sought is "confidential" in nature. He added that he could secure only one notification regarding withdrawal of a case registered at Aland police station, Kalaburagi.

According to the petition-

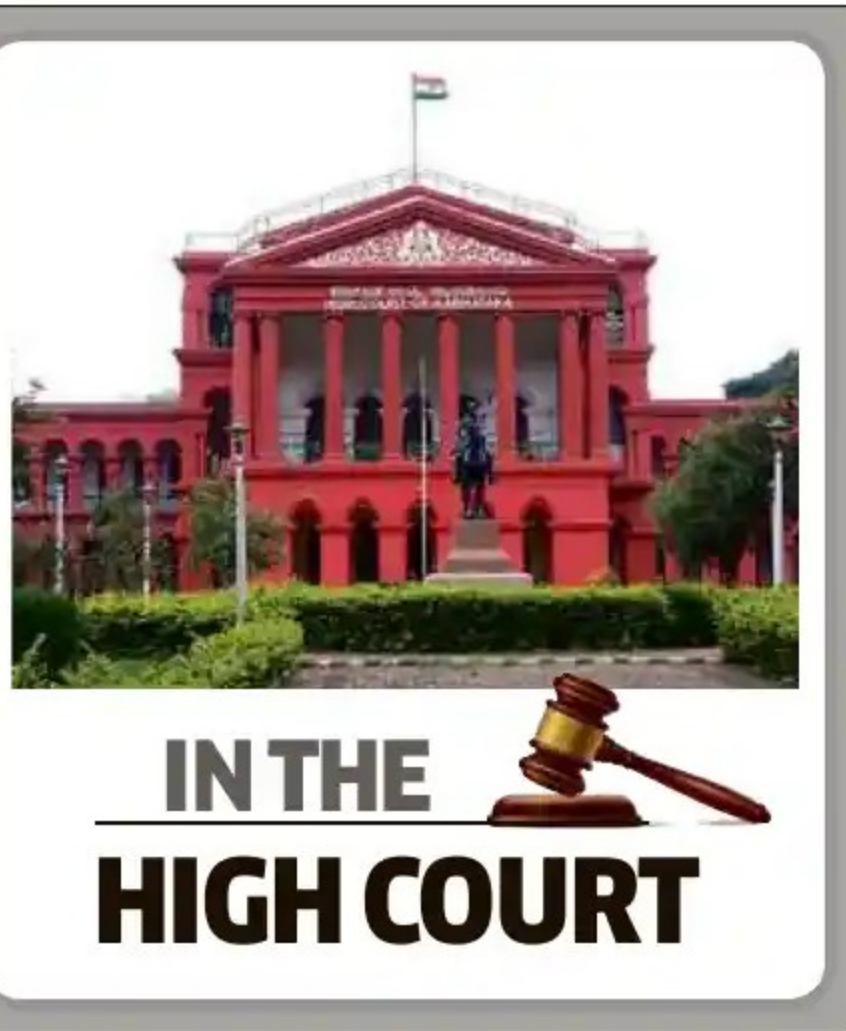
er, on May 29, 2025, the high court quashed an earlier government order for withdrawal of 43 criminal cases from prosecution on the then deputy chief minister's recommendation.

Despite this, a fresh process was initiated for withdrawing criminal cases where serious offences like unlawful assembly, rioting, destruction of public property are alleged, the petitioner said.

According to the petitioner, an internal office noting by the Department of Prosecutions revealed that the Senior Assistant Public Prosecutor, the Deputy Director of Prosecutions and the Director of Prosecutions had independently and consistently opined against withdrawal at every level.

"It is a matter of grave concern that the Respondent No. 1 (state government) has deliberately and consciously kept the Cabinet decision dated 21.05.2026 and all records, including the Cabinet note, Cabinet proceedings, reasons recorded and deliberations, away from the public domain," the petition stated.

The petition further stated



that the government order and the Cabinet decision are without jurisdiction and violate CrPC Section 321 as the power to withdraw from prosecution vests exclusively in the public prosecutor acting independently, free from executive influence, and no role is contemplated for the government or its Cabinet in the process.

The petitioner sought directions to the state government to place the records pertaining to the May 21, 2026 Cabinet decision to find out the ministers who pressured the government to withdraw the criminal cases.

Home Minister Priyank Kharge told reporters on Thursday that procedural lapses, if any, would be set right. "First of all, I don't think BJP realises all their people are also in it. If it is a slap on our face, it is a slap on their face also. We are not doing anything the previous BJP government hasn't done or has done," he said.

Recruitment for 7,925 police posts progressing in different stages: Priyank

BENGALURU, DHNS: Home Minister Priyank Kharge on Thursday said 7,925 police vacancies were being filled for 2026-27 to strengthen the department.

"These recruitments are being conducted in a highly transparent manner by the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA)," he stated.

As many as 1,639 posts have been reserved for Kalyana Karnataka and the remaining for the rest of the state. These include posts of Detective Sub-Inspector, Armed Police Constable, Police Constable (Civil), Special Reserve Police Constable (CAR), Special Reserve Police Constable (Civil) and Police Constable.

The home minister stated that special priority has been given to candidates from the

Kalyana Karnataka region in this recruitment. The application process for civil and armed police constables has already begun, and Kharge requested eligible and interested candidates to apply within the stipulated timeframe.

He further said that a Cabinet meeting on Thursday granted approval for the construction of 10 new police station buildings across various districts in the state.

"As announced in the 2026-27 budget, this decision has been taken to construct independent buildings for police stations operating in various parts of the state. The Cabinet has approved a total grant allocation of Rs 30 crore for this project," as per a statement from Kharge's office.

Modern buildings will be constructed for Uppinangady, Kundgol, Arsikere Rural, Surpur, Muddebihal, Kusthagi, Sirwar, Sakleshpur Rural, Basavana Bagewadi and Hunsur Rural police stations.

"Once these new buildings are constructed, police personnel will benefit from a better working environment, making it possible to provide faster and more accessible police services to the public. Modernising the police department's infrastructure to meet the state's growing security challenges is a priority for the government," Kharge said.

Kharge emphasised that the government was continuously working to strengthen the police department in terms of both technology and infrastructure.

Health inspector found murdered

CHITRADURGA, DHNS: A 47-year-old health inspector attached to the primary health centre in Lingadahalli of Pavagada taluk in Tumakuru district was found murdered near Indaldal in Chitradurga taluk. His body was partly burnt.

The residents of Indaldal informed the police of a foul smell emanating from a spot in their village, and upon searching, the police found the body. While the identity of the deceased has been established, the exact reason for the murder is yet to be found out. Police said that murder was committed a week ago near Channagiri in Davangere district and the body was partially burnt near Indaldal.

Rural police have registered a case.

No water from Bhadra dam for kharif season

SHIVAMOGGA, DHNS: Bhadra dam authorities have said that water won't be released into left and right canals of the project for monsoon crop, and water in reservoir will be used only for drinking purpose.

In a press note, Bhadra Project Irrigation Advisory Committee said the state government has issued an order directing the officials concerned to use water stored in the dam for drinking purpose.

So, farmers of the Bhadra command area have been asked to cooperate with the government.

KDA study says English medium in govt schools not fully effective

BENGALURU, DHNS

English medium education in government-run schools has failed to reach students effectively, a study by Kannada Development Authority (KDA) in Chamaraajanagar district has found.

The study covered 201 students in 20 schools that transitioned to English medium in 2019-20. The students, who joined the schools for grade 1, are now in classes 6 and 7.

Even after so many years of English-medium education, students' usage of the language is limited to prescribed textbooks and whatever teachers use in classrooms, the study said.

Students are yet to develop ability to actively use the language for communication, it said. The assessment was designed to evaluate students' competency in English across four core language skills - listening, speaking, reading and writing.

"The purpose of the study was not merely to measure student performance, but to also use it as a lens to understand the nature of language learning process taking place in classrooms and identify pedagogical and systemic factors that may be influencing language acquisition," reads the report.



The study revealed that students were guessing meaning without full comprehension, reading without understanding, had minimal independent writing ability, disconnected expressions in speaking and gave single word response instead of sentences.

The assessment included different types of language and genre: Everyday conversation, storytelling, reciting rhymes, describing pictures, reading narratives, responding to comprehension questions, writing sentences and short passages. Across the four language skills, a consistent pattern emerged.

"Students demonstrated limited vocabulary and ability to form sentences and difficulty in understanding questions and texts in English. They were also not able to speak freely and/or express ideas with confidence in complete sentences".

The study revealed that students were guessing meaning without full comprehension, reading without understand-

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Strengthen Kannada as medium in foundational years
- Introduce English as second language (phased approach)
- Reform language pedagogy (Kannada & English)
- Prioritise teacher capacity development
- Strengthen teacher evaluation and academic support
- Scale up successful Kannada-medium models
- Reconsider premature English-medium transition

LOST IN TRANSLATION?

- Students struggled to understand questions, gave unrelated, irrelevant responses. When asked, how do you come to school? Some said '9'o'clock'
- Only 33% could pronounce a few disconnected words during recitation
- 35% were able to recite only 2-3 lines of poems
- 22% students could correctly write basic words
- 45% able to name more than half of objects given
- In grammar context, 37% scored zero
- 74% students at level zero in creative writing; 1% able to write 5 meaningful sentences

ing, had minimal independent writing ability, disconnected expressions in speaking and gave single word response instead of sentences.

"These patterns suggest that students are not receiving sufficient and rich exposure to language through listening and consequently are not getting enough opportunities to use it actively and meaningfully in classroom," the report said.

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IN LOVING MEMORY ON 3rd JULY 2026
Sri R. SRINIVASULU NAIDU (R.S. Naidu)
Even though years have passed
The path laid by you for me to cherish has blossomed into a Beautiful Garden and your Blessings are inspiring and guiding me in every moment of my life
Deeply missed by your beloved wife Smt. Meera Srinivasulu
No.2, 'Sri Vilas' 1st Main Road, Gandhinagar, Bangalore-560009

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client intends to purchase land together with construction standing thereon of New No. 6, formerly a portion of Old No. 18, Aga Abbas Ali Road, now known as Aga Abbas Ali Road First Cross, Ulsoor, Bangalore-560042, morefully described in the Schedule hereunder, from Smt. Zareena Begum, rlat # New No. 6, Aga Abbas Ali Road 1st Cross, Ulsoor, Civil Station, Bangalore-560 042.

This is to give notice to the Public that any persons who claim any right, title or interest of any nature in or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the Schedule property and/or has any objections of any nature to the transaction should lodge such claim and / or objections in writing with the undersigned together with supporting documents within ten days from this date, failing which it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsist and our clients would proceed to complete the transaction, subject to compliance with the other formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that Piece and Parcel of land together with construction standing thereon of New No. 6, formerly a portion of Old No. 18, Aga Abbas Ali Road, now known as Aga Abbas Ali Road, First Cross, Ulsoor, Bangalore-560 042, ePID No. 5581685903, measuring East: 50 ft, West : 50ft, North: 20 ft and South : 27 ft, in all 1350 sq ft, and bounded on the East by: Private Property New No. 5, Site Old No. 18/2, Aga Abbas Ali Road 1st Cross, West by: Private Property New No. 7, Aga Abbas Ali Road 1st Cross North by: Public Road South by: Private Property

LEGAL AXIS, M.D.RAGHUNATH,
Skanda Kumar ADVOCATES,
No. 109, 1st Floor, Dharamaraja Koli Street, Shivajinagar, Bangalore-11, Ph: 9845131550
legalaxis@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the concerned that, in accordance with the Record Retention and Destruction Policy of V Care Hospital, the medical records of patients for the period 2007 to 2015 have been destroyed after the completion of the prescribed retention period and in compliance with the hospital's management policy. Accordingly, these records are no longer available with the hospital.

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PERSONAL

Change of Name

CHANGE OF NAME I, MAHIRAJ KHATOON (in 10th Std. School TC) and MEHER (in other documents Aadhar, Pan Card, Voter Id) W/o Noushad Pasha, residing at # 262, 4th Cross, 4th Main, Andrahalli Main Road, Hegganahalli, Vishwanedam, Bengaluru- 560091, declare that the above names pertain to me only. Henceforth I shall be known as **MEHER, vide affidavit dated 01-07-2026 before notary R. Shivanna Chari, Bengaluru.**

CHANGE OF NAME I, ALIYA D/o Munivenkata Gowda, residing at # 04, 5th Cross, Kadrenahalli New Colony, BSK 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560070, have changed my name to **GOWRAMMA, vide affidavit dated 01-07-2026 before notary L. Puttaraju, Bengaluru. Henceforth I shall be known as **GOWRAMMA** only.**

CHANGE OF NAME I, NAVEENA D Residing at No.132, Uttarahalli Kengeri Main Road, Near JSS College, Royal Reflex Layout, Mysasandra, Kengeri, Bengaluru-560060, have changed my name to **NAVEEN I D vide affidavit dated 02/07/2026 before Notary B.V. Nagabushana, Balaguru, Henceforth I shall be known as **NAVEEN I D** only.**

CHANGE OF NAME I, PUSHPA B D/o Basavarajappa, residing at Narasapura Post & Village, Shikanpura Taluk, Talagunda Hobli, Shimoga Dist. have changed my name to **PARINITA B, vide affidavit dated 29-06-2026 before notary Onkarappa N R, Bengaluru. Henceforth I shall be known as **PARINITA B** only.**

I, MRS. BASEERATH, have changed my name to Mrs. BALQUIS SULTANA, vide affidavit dated 01/07/2026 before notary M.Rajendra, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME I, Army No. SL-03796M, Rank: Lt Col (Retd) JUGENDRA SINGH VERMA, Residing at No. 6707 User Verdant Phase 2, Camerlam, Janatha Colo, Camelarlam Po, Camelarlam, Bengaluru-35 declare that: have changed my spouse name from **SHAKUNTALA VERMA to **SHAKUNTALA JUGENDRA VERMA** vide affidavit dated 01/07/2026 before XXXIX Add. Chief Judicial Magistrate, Bengaluru City.**

Lost

DOCUMENT LOST I, Rathamma, residing at Hemmigeppura, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South, have lost my Original Land Documents of Survey no 6/2 RRN-1-02578-2009-10, 29/3 RRN-1-03265-2010-11 & 35/8 RRN-1-03264-2010-11, Hemmigeppura, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru. While in transit. If found please contact: 9845427675

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BJP MP Govind Karjol.

Congress opposing SIR for fear of defeat in polls, says Karjol

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Chitradurga BJP MP Govind Karjol on Thursday alleged that the Congress party is opposing the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls out of fear of losing the upcoming local body elections.

Speaking to media persons, Karjol claimed the Congress is in panic over its impending defeat in the polls. He criticised the party for its shifting stand on electoral processes, recalling its earlier campaign questioning the reliability of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs). “The people did not take Congress leader Rahul Gandhi’s rallies seriously,” Karjol said. He also referred to the situation in West Bengal, where he alleged the Congress joined hands with the Trinamool Congress to create disturbances.

“Rahul Gandhi is extremely disappointed after the BJP’s victory in West Bengal. Now he is saying SIR is not correct,” Karjol added.

“Why should voter list revision not be done? It was Chief Minister DK Shivakumar himself who gave the lead for this exercise. Yet, some leaders in Congress in Karnataka are opposing it and trying to mislead the public.”

Karjol also demanded that the state government constitute a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe alleged irregularities in the implementation of the Gruha Lakshmi scheme.

He claimed that according to Congress leaders themselves, 23,462 accounts had received payments twice every time, while thousands of beneficiaries’ money had been deposited into single accounts.

“The state government should constitute an SIT to probe this and the culprits should be booked,” Karjol demanded.

SC: Balance eviction with vendors’ rights

Footpath drive, from Page 1

This had expanded the definition of “essential service providers” to include non-essential items during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The court observed that such administrative notifications issued for temporary exigencies lose their validity once the underlying conditions cease to exist.

“The expansion of the scope of Essential Service Providers under municipal bye-laws to accommodate pandemic-related requirements cannot be indefinitely sustained when it contradicts the underlying statutory object of regularising street vending,” the bench said.

The decision comes on a civil appeal filed by Malkit Singh and another, underscoring the need for a fair and humane approach while regulating street vending in urban spaces.

The court stressed that relocation of vendors should involve minimum disruption to their livelihood and must be accompanied by adequate support from the authorities.

It noted that abrupt shifts not only affect vendors’ customers but also deprive local residents of easy access to essential services.

The bench issued a series of practical directions to the Chandigarh administration.

Heavy rains pound Uttara Kannada; Supa, Kadri dams clock inflows

After sedate start, rains picked up pace in Kodagu

BENGALURU, DHNS

Many parts of Uttara Kannada district, including Karwar, Ankola, Honnavar and Bhatkal, continued to experience heavy showers on Thursday while the intensity of rain was less in other two coastal districts.

The reservoirs in Uttara Kannada - Supa, Kadra and Kodasalli - have started witnessing a steady increase in inflows owing to relentless rain in coastal and Malnad areas of the district.

Heavy overnight rain left the roads and the low-lying residential areas, including Kursawada, KHB Colony and Sankriwada, in Karwar flooded.

Karwar and Manki recorded 110 mm of rain in the last 24 hours while Ankola registered 100 mm of rain. After a break on Thursday morning, rains resumed in the district.

A portion of a hill caved in on NH 66 near Ramthirtha Cross in Honnavar town, affecting

the traffic on the busy stretch.

The mudslide reduced the highway to one-way traffic. The authorities cleared mud and debris but the affected side remained closed for traffic as a precautionary measure.

Two houses in Honnavar and three in Bhatkal taluk were damaged in mudslides and tree fall incidents on Thursday.

Meanwhile, the intensity of rain has come down in Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts on Thursday.

Mangaluru city and many parts of the district experienced three to four spells of light to moderate rains on Thursday. The district has received an average rain of 52 mm in the last 24 hours.

Barring Byndoor, Udupi district, including the district headquarters, witnessed intermittent spells of light showers. Byndoor town and surrounding areas, however, saw heavy rains in the day.

Byndoor recorded 96 mm of rain while Kundapur and Udupi witnessed 46.5 mm and 17



A landslide brings down a mud heap onto NH 66 near Ramthirtha Cross in Honnavar, Uttara Kannada district on Thursday, affecting traffic. The coastal areas of the district have been witnessing heavy rains for the past three days.



A motorist wades through the waterlogged Kanakadasa Road in Udupi. DH PHOTOS

mm of rain, respectively.

After a sedate start, the monsoon has gained steam in Kodagu district. Heavy show-

ers battered many parts of the hilly district. Harangi reservoir saw an inflow of 858 cusec on Thursday.

Shantalli in Somawarpet recorded 200 mm, highest in the state, in the last 24 hours ending 8 am on Thursday. Bhagamandala and Sampaje received 60 mm and 50 mm of rain, respectively.

A minor landslide on Chettalli-Madikeri road affected the traffic for sometime. A tree came crashing on NH 275 at Kedakal near Sunkikoppa. Vehicular movement was hit for over two hours on the stretch.

Many parts of Malnad region, including Shivamogga and Chikkamagaluru district, saw light to moderate showers.

Up north, parts of Belagavi and Gadag received spells of moderate rain on Thursday. Belagavi city, Khanapur and surrounding areas recorded heavy rains on the intervening night of Wednesday and Thursday.

Heavy rains in Kankumbi and Jamboti forest areas, in the last few days, have infused some life into Malaprabha river.

The wet start to July has brought cheer to farmers who have sown paddy, ragi, groundnut and sweet potato in June, when the monsoon played truant.

JD(S) alleges lapses in SIR, lodges plaint before EC

'BLOs distributing & collecting enumeration forms at community hall in Ramanagara'

BENGALURU, DHNS

Union Minister H D Kumaraswamy has alleged massive irregularities in the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in the state.

Releasing video recordings of voter verification exercises being conducted at a community hall in Ramanagara and at Kunigal during a news conference on Thursday, Kumaraswamy accused the ruling Congress in the state of violating the Election Commission procedures by influencing the exercise.

“We urge the immediate intervention of the Election Commission and I will also bring this to the notice of the Union Home Minister,” he said.

JD(S) legal cell had filed a formal complaint before the Election Commission demanding action against those involved in such irregularities. “Instead of carrying out the mandatory door-to-door verification, Booth Level Officers (BLOs) are distributing and collecting enumeration forms from thousands of people at a community hall. Fake voters were being assembled at one place for the SIR process, defeating the very purpose

H D KUMARASWAMY
Union Minister for Steel & Heavy Industries



Instead of carrying out the mandatory door-to-door verification, Booth Level Officers (BLOs) are distributing and collecting enumeration forms from thousands of people at a community hall. Fake voters were being assembled at one place for the SIR process, defeating the very purpose of conducting an intensive house-to-house verification. There are 8,000-10,000 Bangladeshi immigrants in Ramanagara.

of conducting an intensive house-to-house verification,” Kumaraswamy, also JD(S) state president, alleged.

Kumaraswamy alleged that the government was encouraging the creation of fake voters.

He also criticised the chief minister’s appeal asking people to cooperate with the SIR exercise, alleging that the Congress govt was creating fear among voters by suggesting that those omitted from the electoral rolls could lose the benefits of the state’s five guarantee schemes.

Echoing these concerns, JD(S) youth wing state president Nikhil Kumaraswamy urged the Election Commission to immediately suspend the ongoing SIR exercise in the Ramanagara Assembly constituency and requested the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Karnataka, to directly monitor

the process.

He also demanded the suspension of the BLOs involved and sought legal action against officials if found guilty.

Meanwhile, the JD(S) legal cell submitted a formal memorandum to the Election Commission alleging serious violations of the Election Commission’s SIR guidelines. The party alleged that BLOs were distributing and collecting enumeration forms at a community hall in Tippunagar, allegedly belonging to a local ward Councillor, instead of visiting individual households. According to the complaint, the violations were reported in polling stations 90-92, 101-108 and 114 in the Ramanagara Assembly constituency. The party submitted photographs and videos in support of its allegations.

The complaint further alleged that similar practices were being followed in other polling stations across Karnataka. It also accused election officials in Ramanagara of partisan conduct, claiming that the enumeration process was carried out in the presence of Congress Booth Level Agents (BLAs) while excluding BLAs representing JD(S) and other recognised political parties.

JD(S) demanded a detailed inquiry into the alleged violations, replacement of the Assistant Electoral Registration Officer (AERO) of Ramanagara taluk pending the probe, deployment of a special state-level monitoring team to oversee the exercise, and fresh directions to all AEROs and BLOs reiterating that door-to-door verification is mandatory.

Govt opposed to privatisation of power distribution: CM

'Escoms told to inform KERC that govt won't give nod'

BENGALURU, DHNS

Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Thursday said the government would oppose Tata Power’s application for parallel power distribution and has directed all escoms to file objections before the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC).

“KERC will decide on the application in a day or two. The previous BJP government allowed applying for a licence. We will convey the government’s opinion to KERC as the Tatas have submitted an application to KERC seeking a licence for parallel power distribution,” he said.

The government did not receive the application directly and Tatas have applied to KERC, which then sought the opinion of the escoms.

“If it had come to me, I would have told them directly. But I have now strictly instructed all our escoms to file comprehensive, airtight objections. They must inform KERC that the state government cannot and will not give its consent to this parallel distribution layout,” he asserted.

The state government has

appointed senior IAS officer Harsh Gupta as the secretary of the new citizen’s grievance redressal department ‘Praja Seve’.

Shivakumar, elaborating on the department, said, “The citizen service department is specifically tasked with hearing public grievances, receiving protest petitions, and seamlessly routing citizen pain points directly to the relevant departments and officials.”

“A dedicated minister will head the department and district in-charge ministers must compulsorily spend two days a month (first and third Saturdays) touring two Legislative Assembly constituencies each to prevent citizens from travelling to Bengaluru,” Shivakumar said.

Application forms will be distributed in advance at the taluk levels so citizens can bring pre-filled forms directly to ministers or local MLAs at the counters.

“I will conduct surprise single-day tours across various taluks,” he added.

On the impending bus fare hike, the chief minister said the Transport Department had expressed severe distress over spiralling petrol and diesel prices affecting their daily margins.

“They have submitted a proposal detailing their operational losses. We have asked for a thorough technical report to balance commuter interests and staff welfare before a decision is reached,” he said.

OTHER DECISIONS

■ **Monsoon session:** The monsoon session of the state legislature is to be held in the first or second week of August due to the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

■ **Cabinet sub-committee:** A Cabinet sub-committee under Deputy Chief Minister G Parameshwara will study the government’s plan to create a new Department of Global Investment and Foreign Affairs.

■ **QC/CC Relief:** Deadline for Akrama-Sakrama (95C/OC) application for residential houses has been extended to August 15; 60x40 sites to be exempted.

■ **Aerospace Common Facility** at Devanahalli: A Rs 30-crore project has been sanctioned adjacent to the Bengaluru International Airport in Devanahalli for an Aerospace Park Common Facility Centre to facilitate machinery repairs and technical utilities.

■ **Land allotment guidelines:** Under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, the cabinet altered land allotment guidelines within KIADB industrial sectors. While 5% land remains reserved for individuals with disabilities, the government has capped price concessions at 10% of the property value, with a maximum subsidy ceiling of Rs 20 lakh.

■ **'Bhoo Guarantee':** All private/revenue roads in layouts to be declared public roads post site distribution

■ **Allocations:** Rs 26 crore for infant blindness eradication, Rs 300 crore approved for Gulbarga Textile Park of Rs 1,700 crore, Rs 33 crore for minorities department school uniforms/clothes, Approval for Bilagi lift irrigation scheme - Rs 99 crore project, Rs 26 crore for Phase 1B of the Tree Park development at the NGEF land, which will also integrate cultural and sports facilities.

Indo-Japan military hardware...

Indo-Japan, from Page 1

The Unicorn is an integrated mast that combines multiple communication antennas into a single structure, reducing radar signature while improving communications and the stealth capabilities of naval platforms.

“We have signed an agreement for the first-ever co-development project between India and Japan. This naval radio antenna project will open a new chapter in our defence technology partnership,” Modi said after meeting Takaichi. “Going forward, we will jointly develop defence technologies that will strengthen regional peace, maritime security, and a rules-based order.”

Modi and Takaichi tacitly hit out at China for military muscle-flexing in the Indo-Pacific region. They strongly opposed “any unilateral actions that endanger the safety as well as freedom of navigation and overflight and attempts to change the status quo by force”. They reaffirmed that maritime disputes must be resolved peacefully and in accordance with international law.

The 16th India-Japan annual summit saw the two sides agreeing on a roadmap for greater cooperation across the entire Artificial Technology stack for safe, secure,

trusted, inclusive, and human-centric development of the technology. They agreed on cooperation in strategic stockpiling and reserve mechanisms for crude oil and petroleum products and to promote collaboration in joint investments across the maritime energy transport value chain – to prepare for future crises and supply disruptions, like the one caused by the conflicts in West Asia. Modi and Takaichi also sent a message to both the US and China by expressing “grave concerns” over the use of economic coercion and non-market policies and practices, including arbitrary export restrictions that lead to supply chain disruptions, particularly in critical minerals and critical industrial sectors, and price manipulation. The two leaders concurred on the importance of maintaining a fair competitive global environment.

They adopted the India-Japan Joint Declaration on Economic Security for collaboration in enhancing joint resilience in key sectors, including semiconductors, critical minerals, information and communication technology. The two sides announced about 120 Memorandums of Cooperation involving investments, totalling about 2 trillion yen (\$12.4 billion), by Japan’s companies in India.

Tusker strays on highway passing through Bandipur Tiger Reserve, disrupts movement of vehicles

GUNDLUPET (CHAMARAJANAGAR DIST), DHNS

Traffic movement was disrupted for a while as a lone tusker strayed onto the highway passing through Bandipur Tiger Reserve, in Gundlupet taluk of Chamarajanagar district on Wednesday.

Commuters complain that wild elephants stray out of the forest and get on to the roads and stop goods vehicles transporting sugarcane and vegetables on Bandipur-Ooty Road.

The tusker is frequently spotted on the roadside and also on the highway. It creates an anxiety among the two-wheeler and other vehicle riders, often leading traffic disruption.



A tusker strays onto the highway passing through the Bandipur forest area in Gundlupet taluk of Chamarajanagar district. DH PHOTO

It may be mentioned that a few months ago, a lone tusker strayed on the road and the Forest department personnel conducted an operation to drive it back into the forest.

But the tusker has returned and spotted often on the roads, creating panic among the road users.

The Forest department personnel have taken measures

Two injured in bear attack

HD KOTE (MYSURU DIST), DHNS: Two people were injured in separate bear attacks at HD Kote taluk in Mysuru district on Thursday.

Narayana Nayaka of Chakanahalli near HD Kote town, was walking to his farm around 6 am on Thursday, when a bear suddenly attacked him. He sustained bite injuries on his shoulder. He was provided treatment at the taluk hospital.

It is said that the same

bear attacked Marigowda of Chakkodanahalli in the taluk around 3 pm. Marigowda was working at his field when the bear attacked him. He sustained injuries on his hands, head, legs and back, and is undergoing treatment at the taluk hospital.

Alerted by the incidents, the Forest department personnel visited the spot and were successful in rescuing the bear by tranquillising it. It was later released into the forest.

to bring the situation under control. The officials have ap-

pealed to the road users to be cautious.

Centuries-old Shivling found in Trimbakeshwar Temple tank

MRITYUNJAY BOSE
MUMBAI, DHNS

A unique Shivling, which had remained hidden for centuries, has been discovered in the Amrit Kund inside the Trimbakeshwar Temple complex in Maharashtra's Nashik district.

The discovery was made by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) after it drained water from the tank as part of a conservation and cleaning project.

The discovery of the Shivling at the Trimbakeshwar Temple, one of the 12 Jyotirlingas, has generated considerable interest ahead of the Simhastha Kumbh Mela, when lakhs of devotees are expected to visit Nashik district.

In social media posts, the ASI headquarters in New Delhi



A view of the Shivling

confirmed the discovery. "Centuries-old history has resurfaced in Nashik. The ancient Shivling at the bottom of the 65-foot-deep Amrit Kund inside the Trimbakeshwar Temple complex became visible for the first time in years after the ASI drained the sacred water tank as part of a conservation and cleaning project," the ASI said.

"The Shivling was found at the bottom of the tank while

removing accumulated silt and debris. This remarkable discovery highlights how conservation efforts continue to reveal and preserve India's rich cultural and sacred heritage," it added.

Nestled in the Western Ghats, the Trimbakeshwar Temple is in the foothills of the Brahmagiri Hills and is revered as the origin of the holy Godavari River, often called the Dakshin Ganga.

Trimbakeshwar is the abode of one of the 12 Jyotirlingas. A distinctive feature of the Jyotirlinga here is that the Linga is three-faced, embodying the Tridev — Lord Brahma, Lord Vishnu and Lord Shiva.

The present Trimbakeshwar Temple was constructed by the third Peshwa, Balaji Bajirao (1740-1760), on the site of an older temple.

Six dead as monsoon batters Himachal, Mumbai

Fatal manhole fall once again exposes Mumbai municipality's failure

MUMBAI, DHNS & PTI

The southwest monsoon brought much-needed relief from the lingering heat across several parts of the country but also left in its wake a trail of death and disruption on Thursday, with at least six people killed in rain-related incidents in Himachal Pradesh and Maharashtra.

Heavy showers triggered flash floods, landslides, traffic disruptions and weather alerts across several states.

The abysmal functioning of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) and the gaps in its managing the precarious manholes in the city during monsoon have once again led to a fatal accident on Thursday.

Aslam Esaf Shaikh (55) died after falling into an open manhole in Mumbai's busy Sakinaka area in Andheri East as heavy rain continued in the city and its suburbs.

The incident comes a couple of days after the Bombay High Court asked BMC to en-



Commuters carrying umbrellas make their way through a waterlogged street amid rainfall at Parel, in Mumbai, on Thursday. PTI

sure that no citizen dies due to open manholes.

The accident happened around noon. The Mumbai Fire Brigade and BMC swung into action, and after hours of searching, brought the man up. Aslam was taken to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Tawde, who rushed to the spot, announced financial assistance of Rs 10 lakh to Aslam's family.

Following the incident, Municipal Commissioner Ashwini Bhide suspended four officials.

Deputy Mayor Sanjay Ghadi said BMC would file a case against the contractor, holding him responsible for "homicide".

A fisherman was killed in a lightning strike in Gadchiroli district.

Three persons were killed in separate rain-related accidents in Shimla and Chamba districts, while one death was reported in Mandi district, according to State Emergency Operations Centre data.

A bus conductor named Gyan Chand, a resident of Mandi district, was killed in the Udaipur area of Lahaul and Spiti district after falling stones from a hillside hit him.

After days of hovering on the capital's doorstep, the monsoon finally arrived in Delhi, five days behind its normal onset date, bringing rain, overcast skies, a drop in temperatures and marking the city's first July onset in five years.

The flood situation in Assam improved on Thursday, with the number of affected people dropping to over



Debris and boulders lie scattered on the Badrinath National Highway after a rain-triggered road collapse near Gulabkoti, disrupting traffic and affecting Char Dham Yatra pilgrims, in Chamoli. PTI

25,000 across two districts, according to the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA). Nearly 25,000 people remain affected in Dhemajai and Dibrugarh districts, with Dhemajai accounting for more than 21,000 of them. The flood-related death toll in the state this year remained unchanged at one.

Heavy rains lashed several districts of Gujarat, with Junagadh receiving the highest amount, while three people fell into open drains in separate incidents but survived.

Amarnath Yatra kicks off; first pilgrim convoy leaves Jammu

SRINAGAR, DHNS: The first batch of Amarnath pilgrims left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in Jammu on Thursday, setting in motion the annual pilgrimage that formally begins on Friday from the twin routes of Pahalgam and Baltal in Kashmir amid an unprecedented security and disaster-response apparatus.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the convoy on Thursday. The pilgrims will halt at transit camps before beginning the trek to the 3,880-metre cave shrine in the south Kashmir Himalayas on Friday.

With nearly four lakh devotees already registered—higher than the corresponding figure last year—the administration expects this year's 57-day pilgrimage to witness record participation.

Unlike previous years, authorities have made weather preparedness almost as central as security. The IMD will issue forecasts every three hours, with updates displayed at the Baltal and Nunwan base camps.

Rain shelters have been erected along both routes, while SDRF, NDRF and CRPF mountain rescue teams equipped with oxygen cylinders, stretchers and emergency equipment have been deployed at vulnerable stretches.

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The tender schedule will be available on the website mentioned as below. www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in Telephone No. 08472-220663 Sd/- Executive Engineer			
DIPR/Kalaburagi/286/KSMC&A/2026-27			

ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ CHIKKABALLAPURA URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY. ಸಿಟ್ರಸ್ ಸಿಟಿ ಮೀಡೋಸ್, 4ನೇ ಸೆಕ್ಟರ್, ಕುಮಕಲಪಳ್ಳಿ ಗ್ರಾಮ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ-562103. Citrus City Meadows, 4th Sector, Tumakalahalli Village, B.B.Road, Chikkaballapur-562 103. Email ID:cuda.cbpu@gmail.com ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:08156-274501. ಸಂ:ಚಿ.ನ.ಅ.ಪ್ರಾ/Tender/03&5/2025-26/511 DATE: 23.06.2026	
Invitation for Tender (For Lake Works –As per standard Bid Document KW 2 in two cover system.)	
(1) The Commissioner, Chikkaballapur Urban Development Authority Invites Tenders from the eligible tenderers, for the construction of Park works detailed in the table below in Two cover website document procedures as per KTPP rules 2000 shall be followed. (2) Tender documents may be downloaded from Government http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in (3) Tenders must be electronically submitted in e-procurement portal. (4) Further information, if required, can be obtained from the office of the Commissioner, Chikkaballapur Urban Development Authority during working hours. (1) Pre-bid meeting on 30.06.2026, 12:00 AM of Karnataka e-procurement (2) Last date & Time for receipt of tenders: 08.07.2026 05:30 PM (3) Date & Time for opening of Technical bid: 10.07.2026, 11:00 AM (4) Date & Time for opening of Financial bid:17.07.2026, 04:00 PM or later. Name of work: (1) Improvement of Park in front of Stadium, Ward No-21, Chikkaballapur (CKBUDA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT05). (Amount put to tender Rs.20,70,628/-) and (2) Improvement of Park at Thimmakka Layout & Pathi Hospital, beside KSRTC Depot, Chikkaballapur by CUD. (CKBUDA/2025-26/OW/WORK_INDENT03). (Amount put to tender Rs.21,13,318/-). In case of Any change in calendar of events, it will be published in e-procurement portal only. No separate paper notification will be given. Sd/- Commissioner, Chikkaballapur Urban Development Authority, Chikkaballapur DIPR/CHIKKABALLAPURA/RO:122/KSMCA/2026-27	

INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao Road, Nagarabhavi, Bangalore - 560 072. India	
Applications are invited from interested reputable Car Hiring Agencies / Companies for Empanelment to render vehicles on rate contract for a period of one year from July 21, 2026. The Technical and Commercial Bid Formats may be downloaded from ISEC website: www.isec.ac.in . The Technical Bid and the Financial Bid needs to be submitted in SEPARATE COVERS. The Tender Document, duly filled and signed on all pages may be submitted in sealed cover on or before July 16, 2026 to The Registrar, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao Road, Nagarabhavi P.O. Bengaluru – 560 072 , OR dropped in Tender Box in the Office of the Registrar. Any tenders received after this date shall not be entertained. Selection / Cancellation will be at the sole discretion of ISEC authority. The Tenders shall be opened on July 17, 2026 at 3.30 p.m. in the Institute Premises. Sd/- REGISTRAR	
DIPR/CP/1447/Shirdi Sai/2026-27	

KARNATAKA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION No. 16 C-1, Millers Tank Bed Area, Vasanthanagara, Bengaluru-560052. Phone: 080-22268677/78/79 Fax: 080-22268667 Email: kerc-ka@nic.in Website: https://kerc.karnataka.gov.in	
No: KERC/KEDC/2026-27/2219	Date: 02-07-2026
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE	
Sub: Draft Karnataka Electricity Distribution Code (KEDC), (First Amendment), 2026. Ref: KERC/KEDC/2026-27/2080, dated: 04-06-2026. The draft Regulations on the above subject was published in the Official Gazette of Karnataka on 11-06-2026 and the same is also made available on the KERC's website https://kerc.karnataka.gov.in . The Commission has scheduled a public hearing in the matter on 14-07-2026 at 2.30 pm in the Court Hall of the Commission . Interested persons may appear in person before the Commission and may make oral submissions thereon. Sd/- Secretary For Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission DIPR/CP/VC/1436/2026-27	

ಸಿಟಿ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು	
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಸಿ.ಸಿ.ಎಡಿಎಂ-ಐ. 9&15/2026/ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ-ಸಿಟಿಹೆಚ್ 94ಎನಐಎ ಮತ್ತು 54&55 ಎಸಿಪಿಎಂ ಮತ್ತು ಹೌಸ್‌ಕೀರಿಂಗ್ & ಸ್ಟುಡಿಯೋ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01.07.2026	

ಇ-ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ	
ಸಿಟಿ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯವು ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಸೇವಾ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಒದಗಿಸಲು ಅರ್ಹ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು / ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿಗಳು / ವ್ಯವಹಾರ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ನಿರ್ವಾಹಕರಿಂದ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಿಂಗ್ ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಇ-ಬಿಡ್ಡಿಂಗ್ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆ (ಕೊಟೇಶನ್‌ಗಳು)ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿದೆ.	
(1) ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ (ಕೆ.ಸಿ.ಸಿ.ಎಂ ಇಂದ ನೀಡಿದಂತೆ): ಹೆಚ್‌ಸಿ/2026-27/ ಎಸ್‌ಇ 0172 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01.07.2026. ಸೇವೆಯ ಹೆಸರು: ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರದ XCIII ಅಡಿಪಾಯದ ಒಳಿತಿ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಅದರ ಘಟಕಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲವನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸುವುದು. ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್‌ನ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ಷಾರ್ಟ್: ರೂ.16,18,284/-, ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ: ರೂ.16,182/-	
(2) ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ (ಕೆ.ಸಿ.ಸಿ.ಎಂ ಇಂದ ನೀಡಿದಂತೆ): ಹೆಚ್‌ಸಿ/2026-27/ ಎಸ್‌ಇ0173 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01.07.2026. ಸೇವೆಯ ಹೆಸರು: ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರದ LIV ಮತ್ತು LV ಅಡಿಪಾಯದ ಚೀಫ್ ಹಾಜಿಯಲ್ ಮ್ಯಾಜಿಸ್ಟೇಟ್ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲವನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸುವುದು. ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್‌ನ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ಷಾರ್ಟ್: ರೂ.32,36,568/-, ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ: ರೂ.16,182/-	
(3) ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ (ಕೆ.ಸಿ.ಸಿ.ಎಂ ಇಂದ ನೀಡಿದಂತೆ): ಹೆಚ್‌ಸಿ/2026-27/ ಎಸ್‌ಇ0174 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01.07.2026. ಸೇವೆಯ ಹೆಸರು: ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರದ ಸಿಟಿ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ತೌಕಾಶಾಲಯಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ವಾಹನಗಳಿಗೆ ಸ್ಟುಡಿಯೋ ಸೇವೆಗಳನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸುವುದು. ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್‌ನ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ಷಾರ್ಟ್: ರೂ.7,73,052/-, ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ: ರೂ.7,731/-	
ಪ್ರತಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಯ ಕಾಲಾವಧಿ: 3 ವರ್ಷಗಳು, ತ್ವರಿತಕರ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟ/ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟು ಪ್ರತಿ ವರ್ಷ ನವೀಕರಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕಡೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: 16.07.2026ರಂದು ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.1 ಮತ್ತು 2ಕ್ಕೆ ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 3.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.3ಕ್ಕೆ ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 3.01 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. ಬಿಡ್ಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್: 17.07.2026, ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 3.01 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. ಅರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್: ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಅನುಮೋದನೆಯಾದ ನಂತರ, ಬಿಡ್ ಪೂರ್ವ ಸಭೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 09.07.2026 ರಂದು ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ. 1 ಮತ್ತು 2ಕ್ಕೆ ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 1.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ. 3ಕ್ಕೆ ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 1.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಸದರಿ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದ ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080-22939220, ಇ-ಮೇಲ್ ಐಡಿ: cccadm2@gmail.com ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ.	
ಸಹಿ/- ರಿಜಿಸ್ಟ್ರಾರ್, ನಗರ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು. ವಾಸಾಂಶ/ಉಸಿ-ಸಿ/1433/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಎ/2026-27	

ಶ್ರೀ ಜಾಮರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಮೃಗಾಲಯ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಶ್ರೀ ಜಾಮರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಮೃಗಾಲಯ, ಮೈಸೂರು-570010 ಫೋನ್ 0821-2440752 ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ www.mysuruzoo.info ಇ-ಮೇಲ್: zoomsore@gmail.com	
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಎಂವೈಜೆಡ್/ಬಿಂಡರ್/2026-27	ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30.06.2026
ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಯೂನಿಟ್‌-1,2,3,4 ಮತ್ತು 5ರ ಆಹಾರ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಿರುವ ಅಲ್ಪವಧಿ ಮರು ಬಿಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (2ನೇ ಕರೆ) (ಇ ಕೊಡ್ಡೆಸ್‌ಮಿಂಟ್ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ)	
ಈ ಕಛೇರಿ ಬಿಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯು 1) Unit-1 Supply of Clean Buffalo Meat/ Bovine Liver and Heart Indent No.81/26-27(Call-2) Dt.30.06.2026 2) Unit-2 Supply of Fish, Prawns and Dressed Skinless Chicken Indent No. 82/26-27(Call-2) Dt.30.06.2026 3) Unit-3 Supply of Reed Grass and other grass Indent No. 83/26-27(Call-2) Dt.30.06.2026 4) Unit-4 Supply of Food Grains Mysuru Indent No.84/26-27 (Call-2) Dt.30.06.2026. 5) Unit-5 Supply of Miscellaneous articles Indent No.85/26-27 (Call-2) Dt.30.06.2026 ಅನ್ವಯ ಬಿಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಬಿಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕವನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಿಂಗ್ (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು. ಸಹಿ/-ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಪ್ರಭಾರ ವಾಸಾಂಶ/ಮೈಸೂರಿನಿಡಿ ವಾಸು/995/2026-27 ಶ್ರೀ ಜಾಮರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಮೃಗಾಲಯ, ಮೈಸೂರು	

KARNATAKA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION Civil Engineering Division, Bengaluru - 560027.		
No: KST/EE/JE/223/2026-27	Date: 02-07-2026	
KPP PORTAL TENDER NOTIFICATION NO: 02		
Tenders / Bids are invited from eligible registered Contractors Individuals / Agency / Firms by the Executive Engineer, Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation, Civil Engineering Division, Bengaluru for the detailed below.		
Name of the Work	Amount Put to Tender (in Rs.)	EMD Amount (in Rs.)
Additional Development Works at Kempegowda Bus Station - (Stage-III) (Call-2)	2,03,38,800.00	3,05,100.00
Time Limit in Months (Including Monsoon): 04 Months 1) Last Date for Acceptance of Tender: 29-07-2026 . 2) More details can be obtained by login to the website, after Date: 08-07-2026 - https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in . 3) For more information contact Executive Engineer, KSRTC, Old CTI Building, Shanthinagara, Bengaluru - 560027 Sd/- Executive Engineer, KSRTC, CE Division, Bengaluru. DIPR/CP/1456/Adverta/2026-27		

BENGALURU CENTRAL CITY CORPORATION Office of the Senior Assistant Director (education), GBA Office, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002. Ph No:94801-80152, email: eoeducation@yahoo.in No:BCCC/2026-27/IND0006 Date:01-07-2026	
TENDER NOTIFICATION	
Bengaluru Central City Corporation invites REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR the Supply of Bags to BCCC Schools and Colleges for the Academic year 2026-27 from eligible bidders. Following are the Events of Bid Process:	
1. Tender Reference No:	BCCC/2026-27/IND0006
2. Date of Commencement of Download of Tender Document from Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in From 01-07-2026 onwards.	
3. Date, Time & Venue of Pre-bid Meeting on 03-07-2026 at 11:30 am, at the following Venue: Office of SADD, education, Annex-3, N.R. Square, 1st Floor, BCCC, Bengaluru - 560001.	
4. Last Date and Time for uploading Online Queries in Karnataka Public Procurement portal on 03-07-2026 upto 5:00 pm.	
5. Last Date and Time for uploading of Tender in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal on 09-07-2026 upto 5:00 pm	
6. Date and Time of opening of Technical Bids in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal on 10-07-2026 at 5:10 pm	
7. Date and Time of Sample Submission	Will be intimated after Technical Bid Opening
8. Address for Communication: Office of SADD, education, Annex-3, N.R. Square, 1st Floor, BCCC, Bengaluru - 560001 Email: saddeducationBCCC@gmail.com , Contact: 9480685297	
1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in 2) Other details can be seen in the tender documents. Sd/- Senior Assistant Director (Edu) Bengaluru Central City Corporation	

Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited (A Government of Karnataka Undertaking) # 6/13/1, 10th Block, 2nd Stage, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru-560072, Ph:080-22282220, email: kredlmd@gmail.com , www.kredl.karnataka.gov.in No: KREDL/07/SG-1702/2GW Solar with 1GWhr BESS/2026 Dated:03.07.2026			
INVITATION FOR BIDS			
The Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited hereby invites bids for Selection of Developer for establishment of 2GW Solar PV Plant with 1GWh BESS (dispatchable capacity)at Ryapte, Pavagada Taluk, Tumakuru District in Karnataka, duly interconnecting to proposed 400/220kV KPCL Ryapte sub-station, awarded under Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) for procurement of Power by ESCOMs. The project shall be developed in following 6 Blocks:			
Sl. No.	Block	Solar in MW	BESS in MW/MWh
1	Block-1	500	125/250
2	Block-2	500	125/250
3	Block-3	250	62.5/125
4	Block-4	250	62.5/125
5	Block-5	250	62.5/125
6	Block-6	250	62.5/125
Total		2000	500/1000
Bid documents will be available in the Bharat Electronic Tender Portal (https://www.bharat-electronictender.com) on or after 06.07.2026 . The Last date for submission of bids is 07.09.2026 . Further amendments if any, shall only be notified in the Bharat Electronic Tender Portal. Note: KREDL reserves the right to annul the bidding process and invite fresh bids without liability or obligation for such invitation and without assigning any reasons. Sd/- Assistant General Manager-RAP, KREDL			

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED CIN: U40109KA1999SGC052521 No. CGM(Tech)/DGM(PROC &APCC)/EE-Proc/AEE-1/2026-27/174-190 Date: 02.07.2026	
BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY) KPTCL re-invites Bids (on percentage rate basis) on electronic mode for the following works in a Combined Package against following Enquiry Number:	
Enquiry number & Name of the Works	
Enquiry No: KPTCL/2026-27/SS/WORK_INDENT3947 Combined Package for, Work-A: Creating 33kV reference by providing additional 1x20MVA,110/33-11kV Power Transformer at 110/11kV Yadwad sub-station in Gokak Taluk, Belagavi District. Work-B: Creating 33kV reference by providing additional 1x20MVA,110/33-11kV Power Transformer at 220kV Esale sub-station Sirsi Taluk, Uttara Kannada District. Work-C: Providing additional 1x20MVA, 110/33-11kV Power Transformer at 110kV Kiruvatti sub-station in Yallapura Taluk, Uttara Kannada District. Work-D: Creating 33kV reference by providing additional 1x20MVA, 110/33-11kV Power Transformer at 110kV Bidi sub-station in Khanapur Taluk, Belagavi District, on Total Turnkey Basis , including Supply of all Materials/Equipments and Erection (including dismantling & Civil Works) of all Materials/Equipments, Testing and Commissioning.	
The bids will be received through KPP Portal only. The details regarding participation in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in with hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 06.07.2026 @ 15:00hrs . Last date & time for receipt of Bids is 05.08.2026 @ 15:00hrs . Any extension of Due date for Bid submission will be intimated in the KPP portal. Any details required in this regard can also be had from the Office of the undersigned during Office hours. All Corrigendum/Addendums shall be noticed by the bidders before the last date of submission of the Bids. Sd/- Chief General Manager(Tech),, KPTCL, Corporate Office, 11th Floor, Indhana Bhavan, A.R. Circle, Bengaluru - 560 009.	

Tainted AIADMK entrants dent TVK's corruption-free promise

Induction of leaders facing cases undermines Vijay's claims of being a change agent

ANALYSIS
E T B SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS

In his Assembly speech on June 23, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay was categorical that he would neither touch people's money nor spare anyone who indulged in corruption in the past.

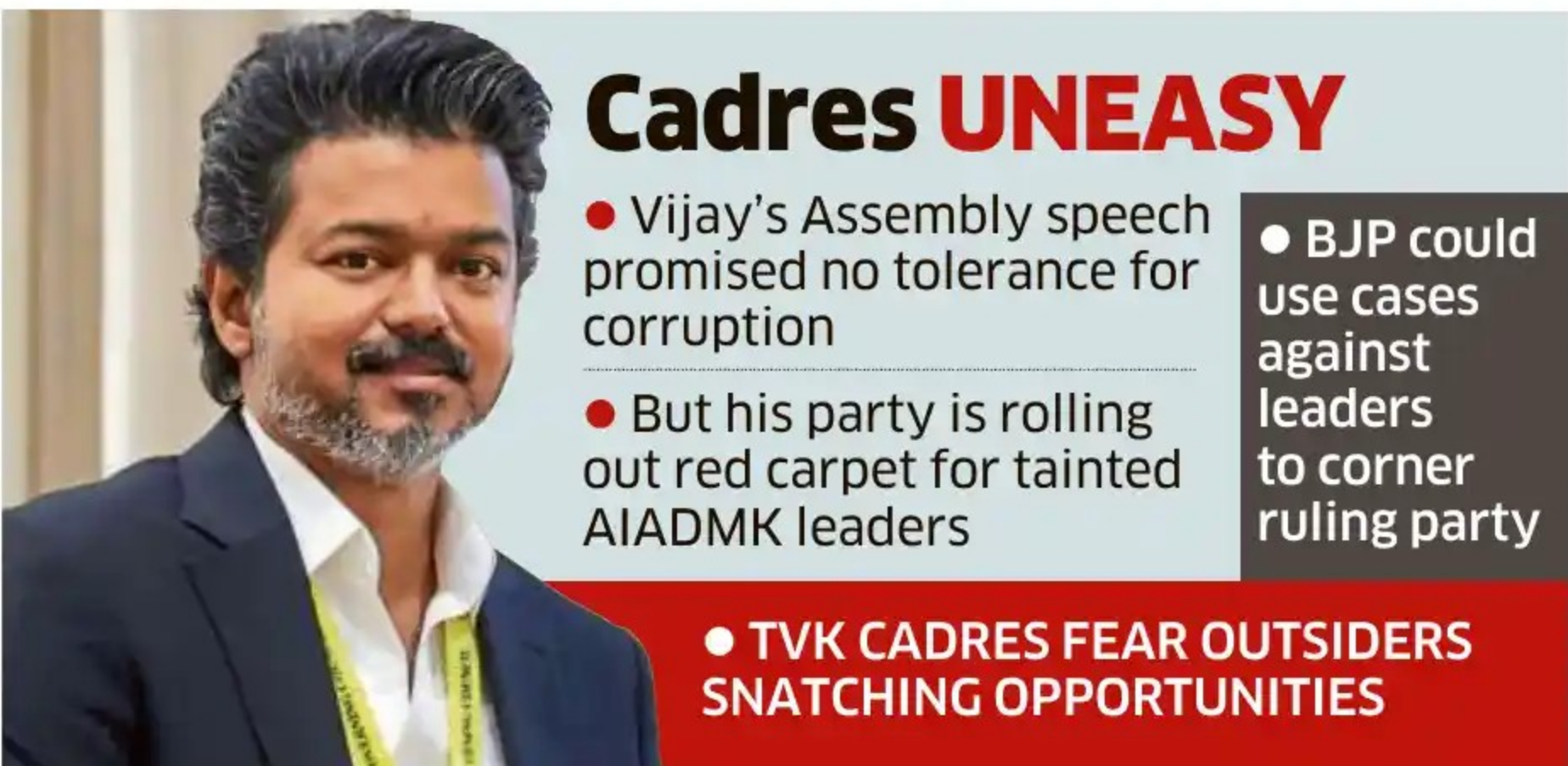
Nine days later, on Thurs-

day, Vijay's TVK rolled out the red carpet to AIADMK leaders including C Vijayabaskar and MR Vijayabhaskar—both former ministers facing serious corruption and land-grabbing charges currently being probed by the CBI and the Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption (DVAC).

While they bring a lot to the table, including dedicated supporters and years of administrative and organisational

experience, the move not only sullies the anti-corruption plank championed by the TVK and Vijay over the last two and a half years but also raises serious questions about their claims of being change agents.

After coming to power, the TVK has been focusing on strengthening its organisation by inducting a large number of former ministers, MLAs, and senior district-level functionaries from the AIADMK—the very party Vijay branded as “corrupt” during the election campaign. The development has not gone down well with core TVK cadres, who feel “outsiders” are snatching away their political opportunities.



In the past two months, the Vijay government has emphasised transparency in administration. Inducting people with a blemished track record could raise questions about its intentions and the gap between words and actions.

The new regime is already

facing charges of horse-trading to attain a majority in the 234-member Assembly, as the TVK continues to admit AIADMK MLAs who have resigned from their party.

Vijayabaskar, the former MLA from Viralmalai in the Pudukkottai district, has been

charged with accepting bribes from gutka manufacturers to store and sell the banned product. His namesake is accused of forging documents to fraudulently take over land worth Rs 100 crore.

The biggest question now is the fate of the cases filed by the state's anti-corruption watchdog against the two leaders.

Politically too, the development might bring the TVK into the line of fire of the BJP, which could use the cases against the former ministers to corner the ruling party. The DMK previously faced embarrassment when its then minister, V Senthil Balaji, was jailed in 2023 in a cash-for-jobs scam

under the 2011-2016 AIADMK government.

Both former ministers are likely to be fielded as TVK candidates from Viralmalai and Karur, the seats they vacated recently.

If they are inducted into the Cabinet subsequent to winning the bypolls, that would further erode the TVK's anti-corruption credentials and rob the party of a critical weapon against its chief opponent, the DMK, which it frequently accuses of systemic corruption.

Senior journalist R Bhagwan Singh told *DH* that the development is nothing but politics of survival, opportunism and total disdain for public opinion.

Bypolls to 3 Assembly seats on July 30

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Bypolls to three Assembly seats in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat, including the one vacated by BJP president Nitin Nabin, will be held on July 30. The counting of votes will take place on August 3.

The bypoll in Bihar's Bankipur constituency was necessitated following the resignation of Nabin, who became a Rajya Sabha MP after being elected BJP president.

The death of BJP MLA Yogeshbhai Patel, a 79-year-old former minister, led to the bypoll in Gujarat's Manjalpur constituency, while the disqualification of Congress MLA Rajendra Bharti following his conviction in a fraud case necessitated the bypoll in Madhya Pradesh's Datia constituency.

Nabin has been an MLA since 2006, having first won a bypoll from Patna West and later represented Bankipur after delimitation. Patel had been an MLA since 2002 and also served as a minister.

Bharti, who defeated former Madhya Pradesh Home Minister Narottam Mishra in the last Assembly election, was disqualified after being sentenced to three years' imprisonment in a fraud case.

Meghalaya moves SC against Sonam's bail

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Meghalaya government has approached the Supreme Court challenging the high court's order upholding bail granted to Sonam Raghuvanshi, the prime accused in the honeymoon murder case.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the state, mentioned the petition before a bench headed by Justice MM Sundresh on Thursday and sought urgent listing of the matter, apprehending that the accused might abscond if not kept in custody.

The bench agreed to list the petition for hearing on Friday.

Ayodhya lawyers seek FIR against Champat Rai

Trust 'betrayed': Rai says ahead of July 6 meeting

LUCKNOW, DHNS & PTI

Days after deciding not to represent the accused persons in the alleged fund theft at the Ram Temple, lawyers in Ayodhya on Thursday took to the streets seeking the registration of an FIR against Ram Temple Trust general secretary Champat Rai and three others, including another key trust member: Anil Mishra.

Hundreds of lawyers, chanting slogans against Rai, Mishra and Gopal Rao, who looked after the administration of the temple, tried to march to the Ram Jannabhoomi Police Station, but were prevented by law enforcement personnel.

A group of lawyers led by Ayodhya Bar Association president Kalka Prasad Mishra later filed a complaint at the Civil Line police outpost against Rai and three others.

The lawyers said they would approach the high court and the Supreme Court if the police failed to register an FIR against the accused. “The trust should be dissolved... These people (Rai and others) have tarnished Ayodhya's image,” said one of the protesting lawyers.

The lawyers had earlier demanded that Rai, Mishra and Rao leave Ayodhya immediately, failing which they would block all the entry points to the town.

Meanwhile, Rai on Thursday indicated that he won't continue with the “stigma” in the wake of the controversy even as a priest in Ayodhya accused him and “his gang” of illegally grabbing control of the shrine through forged documents.

According to the sources, Rai, who is currently in seclusion, said that his trust has been “betrayed”. However, he did not specify. His reaction came ahead of a key meeting of the Ram temple trust on July 6.

The Special Investigation Team probing the case revisited Ayodhya and questioned Rai, Mishra and Rao for the second time, sources said.

Twist in tale

In a new twist, Mahant Dinendra Das, one of the members of the trust, claimed on Thursday that Gopal Rao was responsible for the alleged irregularities. Das sought to give a clean chit to Rai, and said Rao was playing “politics” in the matter.

Meanwhile, sources said the police suspected that some more people, who were among those responsible for the counting of the cash offerings at the temple, could be involved in the theft, and were planning to quiz them.

Sources also said the duties of the people engaged in counting were not rotated, contrary to the standard practice, for more than a year.



Champat Rai

EC asks factions to back claims on TMC after Ritabrata leads battle for control

SHEMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Election Commission (EC) on Thursday asked Mamata Banerjee and Ritabrata Banerjee to back their “claims and counter-claims” over organisational elections and authorised signatories of the party by submitting responses by July 6 evening, sources said.

This follows the heightened battle for the “real” Trinamool Congress when on Thursday, rebels led by Ritabrata met the Election Commission for full control of the party and the Mamata Banerjee-faction questioned the “unauthorised” audience.

Sources said the EC has given time till 5.30 pm next Monday for both the factions to respond, setting in motion a process to decide which faction will retain Trinamool Congress' name, symbol and resources.



West Bengal Leader of the Opposition Ritabrata Banerjee, second right, outside Nirvachan Sadan after a meeting between a 10-member delegation of a breakaway faction of the Trinamool Congress and the Election Commission. PTI

The losing side will, in all likelihood, head to court for a final adjudication.

The Mamata-led group had on June 22 submitted a list of fresh office bearers' names followed by Ritabrata faction.

Earlier, the rebels met Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar and Election Commissioners Vivek Joshi and Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and

submitted documents to back their claim for control of the party name, symbol and funds.

Later, Ritabrata told reporters that the EC assured the group that it would examine the issue.

Soon after, the pro-Mamata faction targeted not only the rebels but also the Election Commission. While senior MP Sagarika Ghose called the reb-

CBSE chief appointed additional secy in Home Ministry

NEW DELHI, PTI: CBSE chief Lokhande Prashant Sitaram was on Thursday appointed as an additional secretary in the Union Home Ministry.

Sitaram, a 2001 batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram, and Union Territories or AGMUT cadre, was appointed CBSE chairperson last month after the incumbent was shifted out amid the On-Screen Marking (OSM) system row.

He was then already serving as an additional secretary in the home ministry.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved his appointment in the new role, with additional charge of the post of the CBSE chairperson until a regular incumbent is appointed, according to order issued by the Personnel Ministry.

Class 12 board exams may get 50% weightage in entrance exam revamp

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Class 12 board examination scores may carry up to 50% weightage in key entrance tests such as JEE and NEET, according to recommendations under consideration by a committee set up by the Ministry of Education to examine reforms in the country's examination system.

The proposal is among a series of recommendations made by a nine-member panel constituted by the ministry to suggest measures for reducing the high-stakes nature of entrance examinations and strengthening the role of school education in the admission process.

According to sources familiar with the discussions, the committee has proposed that performance in Class 12 board examinations should carry significant weight in admissions to higher educational institutions, with entrance test scores accounting for the remaining share.

The suggestion, if accepted,

MAJOR MOVE

- Decision pending on education ministry panel report
- Committee eyes reduced coaching dependence
- Proposal to align school and competitive exams
- Far-reaching implications for lakhs of students

ed, would mark a major shift from the current system, where admissions to institutions such as the IITs and medical colleges are based almost entirely on entrance examination scores.

The panel is also understood to have examined ways to better align school education with competitive examinations, amid concerns that the existing framework encourages extensive coaching and places excessive emphasis on a single test. A report by the committee will be submitted in the next few weeks.

The recommendations are currently under consideration by the education ministry, and no final decision has been taken. Any change in the admission process for engineering and medical courses would require consultations with relevant authorities, including the agencies responsible for conducting entrance examinations.

Officials indicated that the objective of the proposed reforms is to encourage consistent academic performance throughout school education while reducing dependence on one-time, high-pressure entrance tests.

If implemented, the proposal could have far-reaching implications for lakhs of students appearing for board examinations and national-level entrance tests every year. The ministry is yet to announce a timeline for taking a decision on the committee's recommendations.

Kerala to form empowered panel on Adani's bid to sell port stake

ARJUN RAGHUNATH
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, DHNS

VD SATHEESAN
Kerala Chief Minister

“The government's goal is to fully protect the interests of the state and realise the full potential of the Vizhinjam Port as a globally competitive transshipment hub.

The Kerala government on Thursday conveyed to Adani Vizhinjam Port Private Limited (AVPPL) its displeasure over the latter's decision to sell 49% stakes in Vizhinjam international seaport to Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) amid criticisms from the Opposition.

The state government decided to form an empowered committee headed by the chief secretary to look into the matter.

Chief Minister VD Satheesan said on Wednesday that he was not aware of the agreement. However, Opposition leader Pinarayi Vijayan raised doubts over Satheesan's statement that AVPPL did not inform the government about selling the stakes to the Switzerland-based shipping major.

CPM is also raking up an earlier row over Satheesan allegedly meeting representatives of the Adani group at Mangalore airport ahead of taking over as chief minister in

May. Satheesan had denied the allegations earlier.

In the case of AVPPL, both Satheesan and Vijayan said as per the concessionaire agreement between the state government and the company, the latter should obtain the government's prior sanction for selling more than 25% stakes.

But AVPPL is learnt to have said that as per the agreement, it could sell up to 74% stakes one year after the beginning of commercial operations of the port.

MSC's investment at the strategically located Vizhinjam port could also require the Centre's security clearance. Adani Ports on Tuesday announced that MSC would invest about Rs 13,220 crore.

New Maha RTI rules on hold after Hazare's protest threat

MUMBAI, DHNS: The Maharashtra government on Thursday put on hold the amendments to the Right to Information (RTI) rules in the state amid threats of an indefinite fast by anti-corruption activist Anna Hazare.

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis directed the state's Chief Commissioner of RTI to stay the implementation of the Maharashtra Right to Information Rules, 2026, according to official sources.

According to a notification issued by the General Administration Department and published in the official gazette on June 12, the new rules came into force immediately upon publication.

Residents of Anna's village Ralegan Siddhi have appealed to the government to withdraw the RTI rules, saying Hazare should not have to risk his health.

The rules provide that an RTI application should ordinarily be confined to a single subject and generally not exceed 150 words.

Manish Tewari shares cryptic post after Punjab Cong rejig snub

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Senior Congress MP Manish Tewari's cryptic post on 'X' about not having an antidote for the “insecurities of individuals” and “institutions” has exposed the chinks in the Punjab Congress, where a reshuffle was effected.



Manish Tewari

Sharing a media report about him being “left in the cold” in the reshuffle, he posted on 'X', “If a person is talented, then society and people usually pick a fault in him. Wish I had an antidote for the insecurities of individuals and institutions!” He did not elaborate.

“Having said that, Congress has given me enough over the past 45 years and I have also devoted my entire adult life in the service of the Indian National Congress over the decades. Que sera, sera, Whatever will be, will be,” he said.

Tewari, who had earlier represented Ludhiana and Anandpur Sahib, was also not invited by the central leadership when it called Punjab leaders to Delhi for discussions on organisational issues in the recent past.

Bengal Cabinet clears panel to vet UCC draft

KOLKATA, PTI: The West Bengal Cabinet on Thursday approved the formation of a committee headed by retired Supreme Court judge Ranjana Prakash Desai to examine the draft Uniform Civil Code (UCC) Bill, taking the BJP government's flagship social reform agenda a step closer to becoming law in the state.

Minister Agnimitra Paul said the panel would have four weeks to scrutinise the draft legislation and submit its recommendations.

“The state cabinet has approved the formation of a committee to examine the West Bengal Uniform Civil Code 2026 draft bill. The committee headed by retired Supreme Court Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai will have four weeks to examine it, after which it will be placed in the Assembly,” Paul told reporters after the Cabinet meeting.

The decision comes three days after Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari formally launched the process of bringing a UCC in West Bengal, one of the BJP's key electoral promises in the 2026 Assembly polls that ended the Trinamool Congress's 15-year rule in the state.

Announcing the initiative in the Assembly on Monday, Adhikari had said the government would introduce the UCC bill during the extended Budget Session scheduled in August.

Ram Temple donation scam, re-NEET to dominate session

AMRITA MADHUKALYA
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Ram Temple donation scam, re-NEET and the casualties of Operation Sindoor are set to be key flashpoints the BJP will face in the upcoming monsoon session, even as power dynamics and seating arrangements are likely to be a major shakeup. Defections from several parties will not only alter the dynamics but also sharpen clashes between the treasury benches and the Opposition.

Government sources indicated the session could begin on July 20 or July 27 and is likely to run until August 13.

The BJP is keen to pass important legislation, including the 130th Constitutional Amendment Bill and legislation to criminalise narcotics consumption. In the last session, its key legislation, the delimitation bill, fell through after the party could not cobble up the required two-thirds numbers.

Sources said the 130th Amendment Bill — which

seeks to remove ministers, including the prime minister and chief ministers, after 30 days of detention or arrest—could serve as a litmus test for the government's numbers. If it succeeds, the delimitation bill is expected to be brought back this session. A minister has already indicated that, if necessary, the government is prepared to convene a special session to ensure its passage even before the session.

The upcoming session will also see a major shift in power dynamics, with parties like the AAP, TMC and Shiv Sena (UBT) facing defections, and the NCP (SP) likely to merge either with the NDA or the Congress. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla is yet to take a final call on the rebels of TMC and Shiv Sena (UBT) seeking recognition as separate groups.

The Opposition will have far less strength than before. The Congress' possible fallout with the DMK will also play out, especially after the Dravidian party sought a separate seating arrangement from the Congress.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Japan's Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi as the latter tries her hand at the musical instrument 'santoor'. PTI

India's Green Hydrogen Mission draws major Japanese investments

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Union Minister for New and Renewable Energy Pralhad Joshi said on Tuesday that the National Green Hydrogen Mission was successfully attracting global investments, forging international partnerships, and creating new export markets for Indian green hydrogen and its derivatives.

Joshi described the initiative as building a robust and future-ready ecosystem for

clean energy.

According to the ministry, ACME Cleantech Solutions Private Limited (ACME Group) has secured significant long-term offtake agreements with two leading Japanese companies. Under the deal with IHI Corporation, ACME will supply 405,000 tonnes per annum (405 kTPA) of green ammonia.

The arrangement is backed by Japan's CfD scheme for

low-carbon ammonia, administered by its Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI). The scheme provides price support to Japanese buyers, enhancing the commercial viability of these imports.

Additionally, ACME has signed a 10-year agreement with Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Company, Inc for the supply of 100 kTPA of green methanol from its Paradip facility.



The costs of deferred truth

The disclosure of the names of six soldiers who were killed during last year’s Operation Sindoor – recently inscribed on the National War Memorial – ironically underlines the Union government’s failure to uphold the democratic norms of transparency. While India rightly honours the ultimate sacrifices of Subedar Major Pawan Kumar, Rifleman Sunil Kumar, Lance Naik Dinesh Kumar, Havildar Sunil Kumar Singh, Sergeant Surendra Kumar, and Agniveer Mood Muralinaik, the delay in a ceremonial announcement formally recording their identities has led to scrutiny. These revelations have emerged more than a year after the operation, raising critical questions about accountability. The government’s subsequent explanations regarding the delay have not been convincing. Important questions on the credibility of official positions now cloud what should have been a time for remembering the fallen.

In May 2025, then Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) Lieutenant General Rajiv Ghai acknowledged that the operation had resulted in casualties but did not reveal the identities or the number of soldiers who had died. Air Chief Marshal A P Singh visited the family of Sergeant Surendra Kumar, and the families of the fallen personnel were honoured with gallantry awards, in acknowledgment of the fact that military losses had occurred. Yet, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh told the Lok Sabha that no Indian soldiers were harmed during the operation. The government has since argued that the minister was responding specifically to reports concerning the deaths of fighter pilots. That explanation, however, has failed to blunt the questions. The opposition Congress has sought a privilege motion against the minister, arguing that Parliament was misled. The episode adds to a pattern of contradictory official narratives regarding the losses sustained during Operation Sindoor, undermining public confidence in these accounts.

No one expects the government or the armed forces to reveal operational details of the conflict or sensitive information that could compromise national security. However, in a democracy, transparency about casualties, setbacks, and the operational costs of military action is important. Public confidence cannot be ensured through selective disclosure, suppression, or exaggeration of facts. A government’s credibility rests not on projecting a face of invincibility but on demonstrating honesty and accountability to the citizens. When official statements are perceived as evasive or inconsistent, they risk creating doubts regarding the government’s claims in other domains as well. Democracies derive strength from their openness, not the illusion of perfection and infallibility. Military operations involve human action and carry the risk of failure. Acknowledging failures does not signal weakness. Concealing truths undermines democratic values.

Democracy demands transparency about military losses without compromising national security

Electoral rolls cannot gatekeep welfare

Chief Minister D K Shivakumar’s warning that those whose names do not appear in Karnataka’s electoral rolls after the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) could lose access to government welfare schemes has understandably caused widespread concern. While nudging eligible citizens to enrol as voters is a legitimate objective, linking electoral registration to welfare benefits is legally untenable. Shivakumar may have been echoing recent remarks by Bihar Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary and a Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) minister in West Bengal who suggested that those absent from the rolls would be denied benefits. However, the constitutional position is unambiguous. Article 326 guarantees universal adult suffrage, enabling every eligible citizen to be registered as a voter, but India has never made voting compulsory. The right to vote is a statutory right, not a mandatory civic obligation. Consequently, failure to be enrolled cannot attract penalties that Parliament itself has never prescribed. The moment the state seeks to deny welfare solely because an individual’s name is absent from the voters’ list, it crosses a constitutional red line.

Eligibility for welfare schemes is determined by factors like residence, income, gender, and economic vulnerability – not voter registration. Making the electoral roll a gateway to social security bears no rational connection to the objectives of these schemes and would almost certainly fail the test of equality under Article 14. It could also infringe Article 21, which the Supreme Court has interpreted to include the right to live with dignity and livelihood. Denying benefits because of a procedural omission would disproportionately harm the poorest citizens. Across states, while ineligible or deceased voters have rightly been removed, the SIR exercise has left lakhs of genuine voters excluded due to clerical errors, data mismatches, spelling mistakes, migration, and other administrative lapses. Vulnerable groups often struggle with these verification exercises and risk being penalised for no fault of their own.

The Supreme Court’s landmark judgment in the Justice K S Puttaswamy case established that a database created for one statutory purpose cannot be repurposed for unrelated objectives without explicit legislative sanction. The Court permitted Aadhaar to be used for welfare delivery because Parliament legislated it as a tool for identity verification tied to subsidies and services. Electoral rolls, by contrast, exist to facilitate democratic franchise, not to serve as an instrument of socio-economic exclusion. While every citizen who qualifies to vote should strive to register, withholding welfare merely because a person’s name is absent from this database is constitutionally indefensible.

The lists serve to facilitate democratic franchise. Exclusion cannot justify the denial of social benefits

Flawed markers such as self-declared incomes exclude the poor. Smarter digital data can target support better

VIJEETH SRINIVAS

A rickshaw puller’s widow can be denied a ration card because of issues in eKYC. Across the country, anyone can secure an income certificate declaring a household income of Rs 17,000 per year with negligible verification. These are symptoms of a deeper structural failure at the heart of India’s welfare: a system that is spending more than ever and making even bigger promises but is operating sub-optimally due to constrained precision.

Welfare is now the central currency of Indian electoral politics. Between FY21 and FY25, combined social services expenditure rose from Rs 14.8 lakh crore to Rs 25.7 lakh crore, a compounded annual growth of 15%. As a share of GDP, expenditure on social services climbed from 6.7% in 2017-18 to 7.8% in 2023-24.

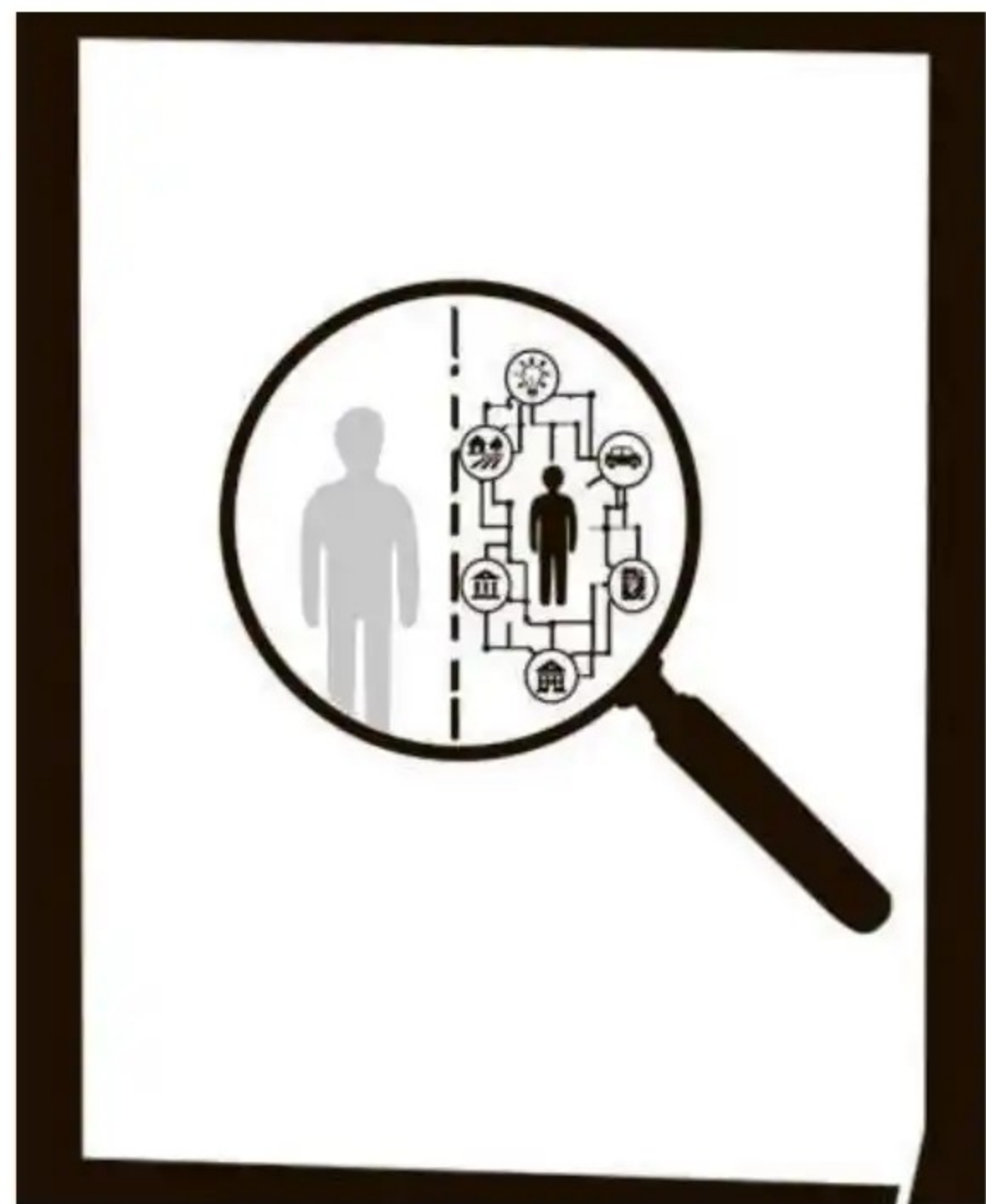
But scale alone does not win elections. Research from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, ahead of the 2024 general elections, found that voters across India were not simply rewarding governments that spent more. They were rewarding governments that delivered outcomes. The Karnataka Congress’s 2023 victory has been widely attributed to the credibility of its welfare guarantees. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)’s Laadli Behna Yojana gave it the edge in Madhya Pradesh the same year, not because it was generous in design but because it was felt on the ground. Voters are discerning. They notice when welfare reaches them and when it does not.

A NITI Aayog assessment found that PDS alone suffers from leakages of 36% and diversions of 21%, a large share traceable to faulty beneficiary identification. A hospital-based study at AIIMS, New Delhi, found that over 69% of the genuinely poor did not possess a BPL card, while 5.5% of Above Poverty Line patients did. Welfare that does not reach the right people is not just a fiscal problem. It is a political liability. The lesson for governments is clear: the question is no longer only how much to spend on welfare but also how to ensure it reaches the right people.

THE STATE OF SUPPORT

Who deserves welfare? India must get it right

The dominant instrument for determining economic eligibility, the income certificate, is structurally broken. Built on self-declaration and manual checks, its objective reliability can be highly contested. Those who need benefits but lack the social and economic capital to navigate the system can be left out. The path forward is not to abandon targeting but to do it properly. NITI Aayog’s Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), developed in partnership with UNDP and OPHI, measures poverty across 12 indicators focusing on health, education, and standard of living – observable dimensions rather than a single self-declared income figure.



The data is already here

Government databases are full of information about economic status. Citizens file income taxes and GST. They contribute to EPF. They register property, pay electricity bills, and send their children to fee-charging schools. They own vehicles and hold land. What is needed is a two-step framework built on economic exclusion rather than self-reported inclusion. The first step is identifying reliable, scalable data points that serve as proxies for economic well-being: electricity consumption, land records, vehicle ownership, income tax filings, school fee payments, property tax records, EPF contributions, and income from government contracts. These are observable, verifiable, and already digitised.

The second step is defining calibrated exclusion thresholds, that is, the point at which a household, by its demonstrated consumption or assets, should reasonably be considered non-poor and, therefore, ineligible for means-tested benefits. Electricity consumption is a particularly useful proxy because it is metered, verifiable, and

a strong correlate of household appliance ownership and overall economic standing. Data from the Centre for Policy Research, using CEA and NSSO figures, shows that about 80% of electrified households consume under 100 units a month, and in rural areas, 90% fall below that mark. A threshold of around 200 units a month is well-justified for the southern parts of India. Crossing 200 units almost certainly means using appliances that are credible signals of economic comfort. This is also the upper band used by states as their domestic subsidy limit, suggesting a broad cross-state consensus on the number.

Critically, this data must be mapped at the family level rather than the individual level, because welfare flows to households. Seeding citizen and family identifiers across these datasets, using Aadhaar, phone numbers, names, and addresses as matching keys, is needed.

A word of caution

Data-driven exclusion can itself go wrong, and the record shows it has. Certain states have implemented mechanisms that have wrongfully excluded food security cardholders owing to faulty matches and data errors. The lesson from such experiences is not that data cannot always be trusted but that data governance must be robust, transparent, and grievance-responsive. No family should lose benefits on the basis of a database error without recourse.

Designed well, this approach does not punish the poor. It protects them by ensuring that the finite resources of a state government reach the families that genuinely need them, rather than being spread thin across a bloated and inaccurate beneficiary list.

The ingredients for a better system already exist across India. What has been missing is the will to stitch them together into a coherent picture to determine economic status and benefit eligibility. This is a governance problem, one that requires states to agree on what exclusion thresholds are fair, to build systems that can be audited and appealed, and to accept that a smaller but more accurate beneficiary list serves the poor better.

Every state in India is grappling with the same tension: expanding welfare commitments on the one hand and managing fiscal pressure on the other. Improving targeting by better leveraging data is today an imperative fix.

(The writer leads the family benefit management system programme in Andhra Pradesh at Samagra, a governance consultancy firm)

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE

Merry memories of monsoon

Perhaps the deepest magic of the monsoon lies in its fragrance

I P ANAND

Monsoon is much more than a season of rain. It is often called the ‘life-giver’, the ‘sky’s symphony’, and the ‘Life-line of India’. What fascinates me most is its power to awaken memories. As an Urdu couplet beautifully captures: *Falak pe kabhi Jab chhaya baadal; Dil ko kae kahaanien yaad si aakar reh gaien* (whenever clouds spread across the sky, the heart was flooded with memories of countless stories).

The rhythm of falling rain, as if a pause in our hurried lives, takes us back to moments tucked away in forgotten corners of memory; it revives the care-free joys of childhood.

For those who grew up before the digital age, dark clouds gathering on the horizon sparked excitement. Their restless movement inspired imaginative explanations. Some children be-

lieved that the clouds travelled to oceans to fetch water; others fancied them carrying secret messages across the heavens. The sky turned into a vast theatre where clouds, thunder and lightning enacted a thrilling drama. We watched in wonder until the first large drops finally fell.

Then began the season’s most cherished ritual – rushing outdoors to dance, splash and play in the rain. We raced through puddles, wrestled in muddy patches and seemed to possess endless energy. Eventually, parents would intervene, pulling us indoors and insisting on dry clothes. Resigned to our fate, we would sit by windows watching pedestrians hurry beneath umbrellas while others strode confidently in raincoats, seemingly challenging the rain itself.

The journey home from school or college brought its own pleasures. Many of us deliberately abandoned our umbrellas, preferring no barrier between ourselves and nature’s heavenly messenger. The cool touch of rain on the skin offered a thrill that outweighed the certainty of catching cold and the inevitable scolding that awaited at home.

Monsoon memories are not all noisy

and exuberant. The season also evokes quieter pleasures – long evenings on open verandas, the aroma of freshly fried snacks, steaming cups of ginger tea and the soulful *ghazals* of Jagjit Singh floating through the background. Such moments transformed ordinary evenings into treasured memories.

Perhaps the deepest magic of the monsoon lies in its fragrance. Long before we learned the scientific term ‘petrichor’, we instinctively recognised the intoxicating scent that arose when the first rain touched parched earth. It was the aroma of relief and renewal – a fragrance impossible to bottle, yet permanently stored in memory.

Today, however, urban life often views the monsoon through a less romantic lens. Rain is measured in traffic jams, waterlogged streets and disrupted schedules. Yet the rain itself has not changed; only our relationship with it has soured.

Perhaps all it takes is a quiet moment by a window to watch the falling rain and reconnect with its enduring charm, mood and magic. In doing so, we may rediscover the wisdom of W H Davies’ lines: What is this life if, full of care, We have no time to stand and stare?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don’t stop at the tip of the iceberg in temple theft case

I refer to ‘Biggest theft in Ram Temple during Maha Kumbh: officials’ (July 2). Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had proclaimed that history had never seen a gathering of the magnitude of the 2025 Prayag Maha Kumbh Mela. It now transpires, however, that while the devotees were offering crores of rupees as donations to Lord Ram, a gang of looters was reaping a rich harvest by syphoning off huge sums and using their ill-gotten wealth to build nest eggs for themselves and

Protect children

The latest report by the United Nations’ Independent International Commission of Inquiry, released last month, is very disturbing. It has once again noted that Israel is responsible for wilful killings and the systematic and deliberate infliction of harm on children in Gaza. A similar report in September 2025 had made comparable findings, which

Israel had rejected. Children killed in Gaza account for about 2% of the territory’s entire child population. Thousands of children have been disabled, and their limbs had to be amputated too. The report further states that the conditions imposed in Gaza have deprived children of access to schools, adequate food and essential services, leading to widespread malnutrition and immense suffering. These findings deserve the

serious attention of the international community. India and other nations should review their relations with Israel in the light of humanitarian principles and international law. **Brij B Goyal**, Ludhiana

Our readers are welcome to email letters to: letters@deccanherald.co.in (only letters emailed – not handwritten – will be accepted). All letters must carry the sender’s postal address and phone number.

SPEAK OUT

Using the CM’s direct influence, the Congress government in Karnataka is trying to create documents for thousands of fake voters, including illegal Bangladeshi immigrants.

This is a conspiracy to give voting rights to people who are a threat to national security.



H D Kumaraswamy, Union Minister and JD(S) leader

Many politicians are tantalising storytellers, as they mix facts with fiction, grab our emotions and tell things they want us to believe.

Erik Pevernagie

TO BE PRECISE



IN PERSPECTIVE

China codifies a ‘unified’ identity

A new law forces assimilation, threatening to erode the identities of Tibetans, Uyghurs, and other minorities

PARUL CHANDRA

China’s new ‘Law on Promoting Ethnic Unity and Progress’ provides legal cover for Beijing’s systematic campaign to destroy the identity and culture of ethnic groups across the country. The law’s reach extends far beyond Tibet, threatening the identities of groups including the Uyghurs and Mongolians. China’s heavy-handed tactics to quell dissent in the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), Xinjiang, and Inner Mongolia are already well documented. In force from July 1, this new law will further ensure the forced assimilation of the 56 ethnic groups officially recognised by Beijing.

It seeks to absorb the distinct ethnic groups into a singular “Chinese” identity. At its core, the 64-article legislation promotes Zhonghua minzu – the state-driven concept of a unified, singular Chinese nation that effectively erases ethnic distinctions. Ultimately, it demands that China’s ethnic groups surrender their unique cultural identities to a homogenised state identity. In effect, it arms Beijing with a legal weapon to crush any hint of ethnic dissent under the guise of national security and makes assimilation an essential element of national unity.

Beijing’s recourse to this strategy aims to strike at the core of Tibetan identity, which decades of relentless repression have failed to erase. The Chinese regime has introduced the new law under the pretext of integration. It serves a singular, chilling objective: to erase a vibrant, ancient civilisation from the world’s collective memory. The law is seen as being part of Beijing’s “second-generation ethnic policies”, with its aim clearly being to subsume ethnic groups into the majority Han Chinese identity.

Penpa Tsering, the head of the Dharamshala-based Tibetan government-in-exile, has been unsparing in criticising the new law. He warns that the law is “tantamount to China committing crimes against humanity and legalising genocide in Tibet”. Tsering notes that for Tibetans, it “represents the legal codification of a decades-long campaign aimed at transforming Tibetan identity, weakening Tibetan culture, restricting religious life, and replacing a distinct civilisation with a state-defined conception of national identity”.

The Parliament of the Tibetan government-in-exile has labelled the law a “blunt legal instrument to further suppress and violently quell

any opposition to policies aimed at the annihilation of the distinct Tibetan national identity”. The law marks the latest step in China’s long-running policy of “Sinicisation” of Tibet after invading and annexing it, which has included the systematic repression of Tibetan Buddhism by targeting monks and monasteries in Tibet.

Beijing has also sought to control the sacred reincarnation process of important Buddhist lamas, aiming to even hand-pick the successor to the 14th Dalai Lama. Since fleeing Tibet in 1959, the Dalai Lama has become the lodestar for Tibetans worldwide in their struggle against Chinese hegemony. He’s also a potent symbol of the Tibetans’ struggle to preserve their civilisation and identity.

Beijing, of course, has sought to portray the new law as a benevolent measure. The law’s preamble, for instance, lauds the Communist Party of China (CCP) for “ensuring that people of all ethnic groups have truly obtained equal political rights and become joint masters of the country”.

But this couldn’t be further from the truth. Article 13, for instance, states that the state is to “guide each ethnic group in promoting identification with Chinese culture, and strengthen Chinese cultural self-confidence”. Article 14 calls upon all levels of government to encourage and support the expression and display of Chinese cultural symbols and images of the Chinese people, with an ominous undertone that no one should “insult, belittle, or desecrate” them.

Language weaponised

The law seeks to wipe out languages used by ethnic groups while promoting the learning of Mandarin. It states that Mandarin learning will be promoted starting at the preschool level itself, a move that will sound the death knell for the Tibetan language. There are other such provisions in the new law aimed at destroying Tibetan identity, such as requiring policy plans in the economic and social sectors to be “conducive to forging a strong sense of the community of the Chinese people” while “opposing separatism”. Alarmingly, under Article 63, an emboldened Beijing even wants to take legal measures against organisations and individuals outside mainland China if they “undermine ethnic unity or create ethnic divisions”.

Amid the ongoing geopolitical turmoil, with an aggressive China cementing its position as a global superpower, Tibetans are worried their civilisation is under threat of extinction. They have virtually championed their cause alone for long. It’s time for the world to step up and show meaningful solidarity with them.

(The writer is a senior journalist who writes on strategic affairs)

The garage mystery: Where innovation begins

MOUSUMI ROY

There is something quietly mythical about the garage. Again and again, when we trace the origins of modern innovation, we find ourselves in one: a cramped, improvised space, cluttered with tools and possibility. Apple began in Steve Jobs' parents' garage in Los Altos. Amazon started in Jeff Bezos' garage in Bellevue. Google took shape in Susan Wojcicki's garage in Menlo Park. Even earlier, in 1939, Hewlett-Packard was born in a rented garage for \$45 a month, its name decided by a coin toss.

The pattern repeats with striking regularity. Harley-Davidson began in backyard shed. Mattel started with picture frames before becoming a toy giant. Lotus Cars emerged from a garage workshop. The Walt Disney Company traces its origins to an uncle's garage, where Walt and Roy Disney produced their first *Alice Comedies*. The list is long, almost suspiciously so. What is it

about garages that produces such stories? Garages were simply available. They were peripheral to the home, close enough to access, but separate enough to experiment freely. You could make noise, host collaborators, spill chemicals, wire circuits, and fail repeatedly without consequence. They were cheap, underused, and forgiving.

But other spaces share these qualities: basements, spare rooms, and rented offices. Under Armour began in a basement. GitHub started as a side project in a home office. These stories exist, but they do not resonate in quite the same way. Because the garage is not important for what it is. It is important for what it enables.

The garage is where something coalesces. It is where curiosity becomes commitment. Where an idea, still half-formed and difficult to articulate, is given enough space to be worked on, not validated, not optimised, but pursued. The people in these spaces were rarely guided by market research or formal planning. A conviction

guided them, often unproven, that they understood something others did not and that persistence would eventually yield a result.

Equally important was what the garage kept out. Not just bureaucracy or managerial oversight, but the disciplining force of the market itself. These were environments where the central question was not "Will this sell?" but "Can this be built?" In that sense, the garage is less a place of business than a space of serious play.

If this feels like a modern phenomenon, it is only because we have forgotten its earlier forms. Long before Silicon Valley, similar stories unfolded in workshops, sheds, and improvised factories. Boeing began in a wooden boathouse on the edge of Lake Union, where William Boeing pursued his fascination with aircraft. Lockheed Corporation emerged from the efforts of two self-taught engineers building planes with limited means. Glenn Martin assembled his first aircraft in a rented church.

Ford Motor Company began with a

handful of men working behind Henry Ford's home, assembling cars in fits and starts. Rolls-Royce originated when Henry Royce, dissatisfied with existing cars, decided to build a better one. Across time, the setting changes. The structure does not. Small teams, limited resources, deep obsession, and the freedom to experiment form the common thread.

These stories share a set of recurring conditions. First, obsession. Not casual interest, but a sustained, often irrational commitment to solving a particular problem. Henry Ford wanted a simple, affordable car. Early aviation pioneers were consumed by flight. Technology founders were drawn to the emerging possibilities of computation.

Second, constraint. These efforts were not well-funded. Hewlett-Packard began with just \$538 in capital. Teams were small and resources scarce. Yet constraint did not inhibit creativity; it sharpened it. It forced focus and ingenuity.

Third, autonomy. These teams operated without layers of approval or institutional inertia. Small, motivated groups could move quickly, change direction, and iterate without friction.

Finally, play. These were not, at least initially, purely commercial ventures. They were driven by curiosity and the desire to see if something could be made, not by the expectation that it would succeed immediately.

Many of these efforts coincided with the emergence of a technological wave: aviation, automobiles, electronics, computing, and the internet. The founders did not create these waves, but they recognised them early. They sensed a shift and chose to participate before its shape was fully understood.

Not all succeeded. Failure was common. Disney's early ventures went bankrupt. General Magic, despite its extraordinary team, could not realise its vision because the surrounding infrastructure was not yet

ready. Obsession, talent, and effort are necessary, but they are not sufficient.

The garage persists because it represents a moment before optimisation. Before scale. Before the weight of expectations reshapes an idea into something safer and more predictable. It is a space where ideas can remain fragile and strange long enough to become real.

The lesson of these stories is not that we need more garages. We need to understand how to recreate what they allowed. In a world increasingly defined by metrics, validation, and risk management, it is easy to extinguish ideas before they have had time to develop.

The garage reminds us that before every institution was an organisation, it was an experiment. And before it was an experiment, it was someone, somewhere, working on something they could not fully justify but could not let go of.

(The author writes about politics, material culture, and economic history)

Mexico's World Cup run has electrified the nation, drawing hundreds of thousands into the streets in celebrations of collective joy, resilience and hope

PAULINA VILLEGAS

The final whistle came with a deafening roar that rolled across Mexico City. Red, white and green smoke engulfed Paseo de la Reforma Avenue as fireworks burst overhead and foam from spray cans fell through the night like snow. More than one million people flooded the boulevard, shoulder to shoulder, waving flags, hugging strangers and chanting beneath the Angel of Independence statue until even the monument disappeared into the smoky haze.

On Tuesday night, the entire country seemed suspended in a rare moment of collective joy after Mexico defeated Ecuador in the World Cup, moving to the round of 16. For the first time in four decades, the team advanced to its fifth match in the tournament, breaking what generations of fans had called the country's curse.

But, for many Mexicans, what appeared to be an extraordinary display of soccer fandom meant something else — something deeper.

After years in which Mexico had become synonymous with cartel violence and disappearances — more than 130,000 people are officially missing — the tournament has offered a rare reprieve: a reason to fill the streets for celebration rather than fear, grief or protest.

"We needed this after all this time of bad news; we needed a relief from all of those things that we face as a country," said Ramses Rincón, a college student whose face was painted with the colours of the Mexican flag and who was wrapped in a large Mexican flag. "It is important to disconnect from reality, even briefly, from the uncertainty we live with. But it's also deeply Mexican to keep finding reasons to celebrate."

Just months ago, Mexican cities had been filled with burning trucks, blocked highways and gunmen sowing chaos after authorities killed one of the country's most powerful cartel leaders and criminal groups retaliated in a show of force.

Now, since the beginning of the World Cup, victories by the national team — known simply as *El Tri*, a reference to the three colours of the Mexican flag — have sent hundreds of thousands of fans into plazas and boulevards, waving flags and climbing monuments, traffic lights and bus shelters. Fans embrace each other and foreigners alike as if they had known one another for years. Subway cars echo with songs. Rivers of people move not to escape violence, but towards one another.

A duck named Merlin, dressed in a tiny Mexico jersey and custom socks, has become an unlikely mascot. At one game, revellers poured tequila for a rooster. A goat in the national team's green shirt wandered through the festivities.

Mexico's improbable run has also awakened a flicker of collective optimism that goes beyond soccer.

The tournament's unofficial slogan is a simple, question: *¿Y si sí?* which roughly translates to "What if they can?" It has become a national refrain embraced by brands, restaurants, influencers and millions of fans and captures the possibility, however fleeting, that things might finally turn out better than expected.

A leading Mexican producer of chicken,



DH ILLUSTRATION: DEEPAK HARICHANDAN

¿Y Si Sí? The World Cup delivers hope to Mexico

eggs and other food products has begun printing the phrase on its eggs.

But beyond the branding, *¿Y si sí?* invites Mexicans to suspend a lifetime of lowered expectations, not only about the national team, but also about the possibility that this time something improbable, something extraordinary, might actually happen.

In a country so accustomed to disappointment, *¿Y si sí?* has become an act of faith.

There's also the rocking. Crowds surround city buses, police trucks and passing cars, swaying them from side to side in a ritual that has become one of the defining images of Mexico's tournament. Television correspondents reporting live have been swallowed by chanting crowds, and, sometimes, hoisted into the air.

Attendance in Mexico City, the capital, swelled with each victory by the national team: roughly 400,000 after the opener; 800,000 after Mexico beat the Czech Republic; and more than one million on Tuesday night, according to local authorities. The crowds were so overwhelming that at least four people died of asphyxiation in Mexico City's centre.

Again and again, fans described the celebrations as a proud display of national character, of what they believe makes their country unique: warmth, spontaneity and irrepressible joy.

Diego Moreno, a street vendor, stood above the crowd on Reforma drenched in foam, shouting at the top of his lungs. Asked to describe Mexican fans,

he barely paused. "This is Mexico!" he yelled. "Mexico is a feeling. It's pure heart!"

For many, the celebrations were also a chance to show another face of the country.

"Mexico is not just its problems, drug traffickers, insecurity and everything else that plagues us," said Selene Gómez, a college student. "Mexico is so much more than that."

The euphoria after Mexico's victory over Ecuador, and the three that preceded it, has felt almost disproportionate to the actual achievement. Many people recognised that it was also about finding release from the emotional weight of everything that came before. The victories have offered a temporary suspension of the country's anxieties, a break from the relentless cycle of violence and bad news. Or, as Mexican writer Juan Villoro put it in a recent column, the national team has given Mexico "a splendid dose of unreality therapy."

One of the tournament's biggest points of contention has been the prohibitive cost of tickets, which put matches at Azteca Stadium beyond the reach of many fans.

So Mexicans turned the streets into their stadium.

Tuesday was no different. Hours before kickoff, hundreds of thousands had already gathered, draped in the national team's green, transforming central Mexico City into something closer to a music festival than a sporting event. Food carts lined the avenues. Music blared. Fans staged impromptu boxing matches and

hung piñatas from light posts.

There was something familiar about the spectacle, something that reached beyond soccer and felt deeply Mexican.

In *The Labyrinth of Solitude*, Nobel laureate Octavio Paz described the Mexican fiesta not as mere diversion but as a ritual of liberation, a moment when Mexicans break free of their customary reserve and surrender to communion, excess and chaos.

"Among us, the Fiesta is an explosion, a bursting forth. Death and life, jubilee and lament, song and howl ally themselves in our festivities," Paz wrote in his seminal essay published in 1950. "There is nothing more joyful than a Mexican fiesta, but there is also nothing sadder. The night of celebration is also a night of mourning."

For Paz, the fiesta temporarily dissolves solitude into collective abandon. That spirit has found a new expression in this World Cup.

At the Angel of Independence on Tuesday night, Osmar Almora, 11, sat in his mother's arms, blowing a plastic horn. Raúl Jiménez, his favourite player, had scored. One day, he said, he hoped to wear Mexico's jersey himself.

"I knew we were going to win," he said.

Around him, the boulevard echoed with "*¿Si se pudo!*" "Yes, it could be done!" For millions of Mexicans, it was a chant about finally believing again.

Osamar, it seemed, had never stopped.

For one unforgettable night, Mexico reclaimed its own narrative through hope, unity, and the enduring power of belief.

The New York Times

Stop killing children

ARVIND NARRAIN

The report of the United Nations Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territories, *The essence of childhood has been destroyed: Israel's deliberate targeting of Palestinian children in the Occupied Palestinian Territory since 7 October 2023*, makes for difficult reading. The commission headed by Justice Muralidhar places before the world how, by intentionally targeting children, Israel is aiming to destroy the very foundations of the existence of Palestinian life in Gaza.

Between October 7, 2023 and October 7, 2025 — when the ceasefire came into effect — at least 20,179 children were killed and 44,143 injured as a direct result of the hostilities in Gaza. This war on children led UNICEF to rank the Gaza Strip as 'the most dangerous place in the world to be a child'.

Palestine and Gaza slipped from the global consciousness as the ceasefire between Hamas and Israel came into effect in October 2025. However, the commission documents that the horrific violence has continued during the ceasefire, when 'more than 100 children had been killed while hundreds more had been wounded'.

The commission expressed concern about increasing targeting and killing of children near the 'yellow line', which is an arbitrary line within Gaza which Israel has drawn, corralling Palestinians into an even narrower territory with Israel controlling over 70% of the strip now. Those who cross the 'yellow line' (whose contours are constantly changing) can be shot. For the commission, 'the targeting of civilians, including children, along the yellow line serves as the latest evidence of the low value of Palestinian lives, including children, in Gaza.'

According to the commission, there was a 'broad pattern of a permissive military culture' which allowed for the targeting of Palestinian children 'with or without directives from superior commanders'. This manifested itself in seeing children as targets in video games. One doctor working in Gaza, whom the commission interviewed, testified that based on the clustering of injuries and the body parts targeted, he came to the conclusion that 'Israeli soldiers have been deliberately shooting teenage boys in a game of target practice — a different body part being targeted on different days.'

The answer to the question as to why there was such a permissive military culture, which laid waste to the right to life, has to be found in the politics of dehumanisation engaged in by Israeli politicians.

The deputy speaker of the

Knesset, Nissim Vaturi, said, "Gaza is full of terrorists, and every child born there is already a terrorist, from the moment of his birth." Moshe Feiglin, a former Likud member of the Israeli Knesset, said that "Every child in Gaza is the enemy. We need to conquer Gaza and colonise it and not leave a single Gazan child there."

The culture of military permissiveness flowed from the understanding of large sections of the Israeli political establishment that Gaza must be subjected to annihilation. The war on children in the understanding of the commission was a crucial element of this genocidal plan.

The commission documents that apart from killing, children were targeted by undermining the foundations of life by deliberately destroying schools, hospitals and even orphanages. In Gaza, disability is no more an 'individual medical condition' but has rather become a 'new demographic reality' with 'a cohort of Palestinians growing up without one or more limbs, with chronic pain, and with visible and invisible scars.' While one is familiar with PTSD as a response to a specific, finite traumatic event, Gazans suffer from 'continuous traumatic stress (CTS)'. For Gazans, there is no 'post' to trauma. It continues through the shooting and the continued absence of conditions of normal life, especially for children.

Thus, Israeli political and military authorities have created living conditions that are fundamentally incompatible with the physical growth and intellectual development of children and the holistic environment necessary for children's well-being. By intentionally targeting children, Israel is eroding the foundational structure of Palestinian society.

The commission's crucial conclusion is that 'children are not just part of a population; their survival is central to the existence and continuity of the Palestinian group.' To target children is a crucial element of the 'Israeli authorities' genocidal intent to destroy the Palestinians as a collective national identity in Gaza.'

This report must become a wake-up call to India. There must be a discussion in the Indian parliament on this report, and the Modi government must make clear its position on whether it is willing to condemn Israel for committing genocide in Gaza. India is bound by international law to both prevent and punish genocide. In accordance with its obligations to 'punish' genocide, India must take action against Israeli soldiers holidaying in India who are complicit in grave violations of both the genocide convention and international humanitarian law.

(The writer is a Bengaluru-based lawyer)

OUR PAGES OF HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO: JULY 1976

Code of fundamental duties

New Delhi, July 2
The Swaran Singh Committee today recommended inscription in the Constitution of an eight-point code of "fundamental duties" including national and military service "when called upon to do so". The fundamental duties are for the citizens to: Respect and abide by the Constitution and the laws; upholding the sovereignty of the nation and to function in such a way as to sustain and strengthen its unity and integrity; respecting the democratic institutions and not to do anything which may impair their dignity or authority; and defending the country and to render national service.

25 YEARS AGO: JULY 2001

NDA recommends Prez rule

New Delhi, July 2
The NDA fact-finding team today recommended imposition of President's rule in Tamil Nadu in the wake of the arrest of former chief minister M Karunanidhi and two Union Ministers Murasoli Maran and T R Balu. The NDA also asked the government to take "stern and exemplary" action against the Jayalalithaa government. The NDA, which met at Prime Minister Vajpayee's residence, has left it to the government to take a decision in this regard. The Cabinet will discuss the latest situation tomorrow.

OASIS | JAMUNA RAO

Yoga for the brave

Asanas, pranayama and bandhas add a new enriching dimension to their effort. The senses develop alertness, sensitivity and concentration.

The practice of *pranayama* enhances all these subtle qualities. Sound, touch, shape and smell all are perceived better. Both instinct and reaction become finetuned. The calming effect it has on the mind controls the fluctuations

in mood, drives away despondency and the tendency to become depressed. Awareness of breath and harmony constrains hallucinations, common at great heights and low oxygen.



The *bandhas* are internal energy locks done for conservation of life-force energy. These not only tone the muscle but also cultivate focus and give mental clarity. They remove all blocks and obstacles to the flow of energy.

The young men do not have a problem building up energy. In hostile conditions this energy has to be channelised in a way that it diffuses evenly over the body, mind, and intelligence. The brave need to use energy judiciously. This builds courage, strength, wisdom and freedom from fear. The faithful canines perhaps take on the mood of their masters.

Magistrates need not record all prosecution evidence in every case: SC

Observes that accepting such a view will lead to unnecessary duplication of evidence

ASHISH TRIPATHI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The Supreme Court has ruled that a magistrate is not required to hear and record the entire prosecution evidence under Section 244 of the CrPC in cases where the offence is not triable by the magistrate.

The apex court set aside a Punjab and Haryana High Court order that mandated such recording even for sessions-triable offences like murder.

A bench of Justices Sanjay Karol and N Kotiswar Singh held that the HC had erred in its interpretation of CrPC Section 244, observing that accepting such a view would lead to unnecessary duplication of evidence, with witnesses deposing on the same facts

multiple times without serving any useful purpose or legal mandate.

CrPC Section 244(1) states that in a warrant-case instituted otherwise than on a police report, the magistrate shall hear the prosecution and take all such evidence as may be produced in its support. However, the apex court clarified that this provision did not apply uniformly when the case involved offences exclusively triable by a sessions court.

The July 1 ruling came in an appeal filed by Neeraj Gupta challenging a September 2, 2019, order of the Punjab and Haryana HC, in which it had remanded a private complaint to the Judicial Magistrate First Class, Chandigarh, directing compliance with CrPC Section 244.

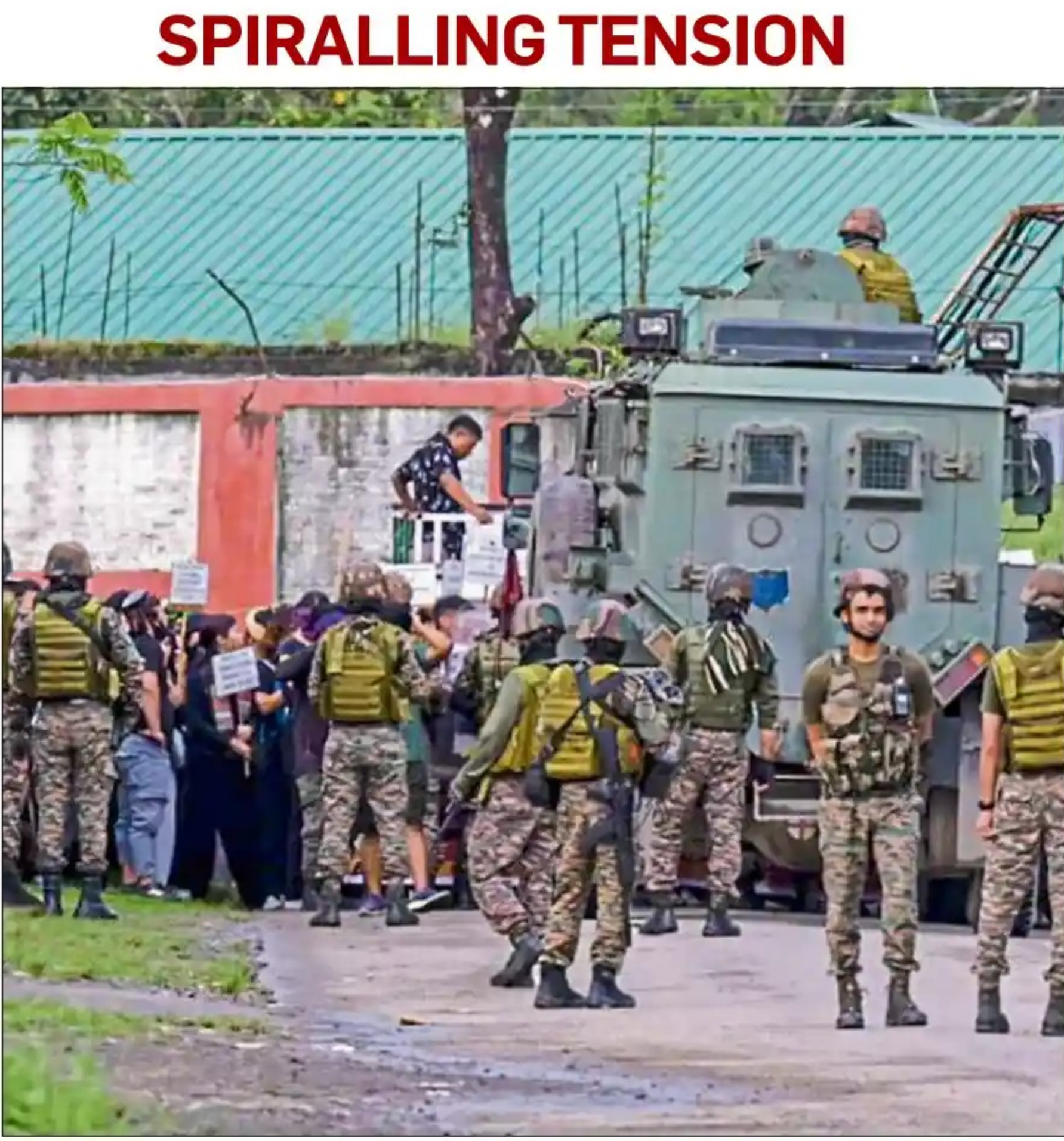
The case stems from a ver-

bal and physical altercation on April 12, 2007, in Chandigarh between Neeraj Gupta and his father on one side and the accused on the other. Gupta's father fell unconscious during the incident and was declared dead at the hospital. Gupta filed complaints seeking registration of an FIR, followed by a private complaint.

The matter was committed to the sessions court, which in 2010 framed charges under Section 302 IPC (murder) only against one accused, Narinder Bansal, while discharging the other two — Pardeep Kumar Bansal and Gurmail Singh.

Aggrieved by this, Gupta approached the HC, which passed the impugned order directing the magistrate to record the prosecution's evidence.

The SC relied on earlier precedents to underscore that a magistrate's role at the committal stage was limited — primarily to ascertain whether the offence is exclusively triable by the Court of Sessions, without needing to record evidence.



Army personnel stop Kuki protesters from marching towards a checkpoint set up by Naga blockade enforcers at Kanto Sabal in Imphal on Thursday. The protesters alleged that the ongoing blockade has caused an acute shortage of essential supplies, including foodgrain and medicines, in Kuki-dominated areas. PTI

UP woman makes reel sitting on cop's chair, deletes Instagram account & apologises

SANJAY PANDEY
LUCKNOW, DHNS

The craze for Instagram reels landed a woman in trouble after she sat on the chair of the Superintendent of Police in Uttar Pradesh's Auraiya district, made a reel, and uploaded it. According to reports, the

incident occurred during the farewell programme of her father-in-law, who retired as a sub-inspector on Tuesday, at the Dibiapur auditorium.

Soon after the officials left the venue, the woman entered the SP's office, occupied his chair and made the reel.

The reel that went viral

on social media purportedly showed the woman spinning in the SP's chair with a smile on her face, appearing to enjoy the sense of authority that came with the post.

As the video gained traction, district police chief Abhishek Bharti ordered action against her. The woman, whose identi-

ty was not immediately known, later uploaded another video, showing her tendering an apology with folded hands. "I have realised my mistake and will never do such things in future," she is heard saying in the clip.

Reports said the woman also deleted her Instagram

account after the controversy. Sources said that police decided to let her off with a warning after she tendered an apology.

The Uttar Pradesh Police have banned the making of reels by officers after several such videos posted by policemen went viral on social media.

MISCELLANY

◆ COMICS ◆

Blondie



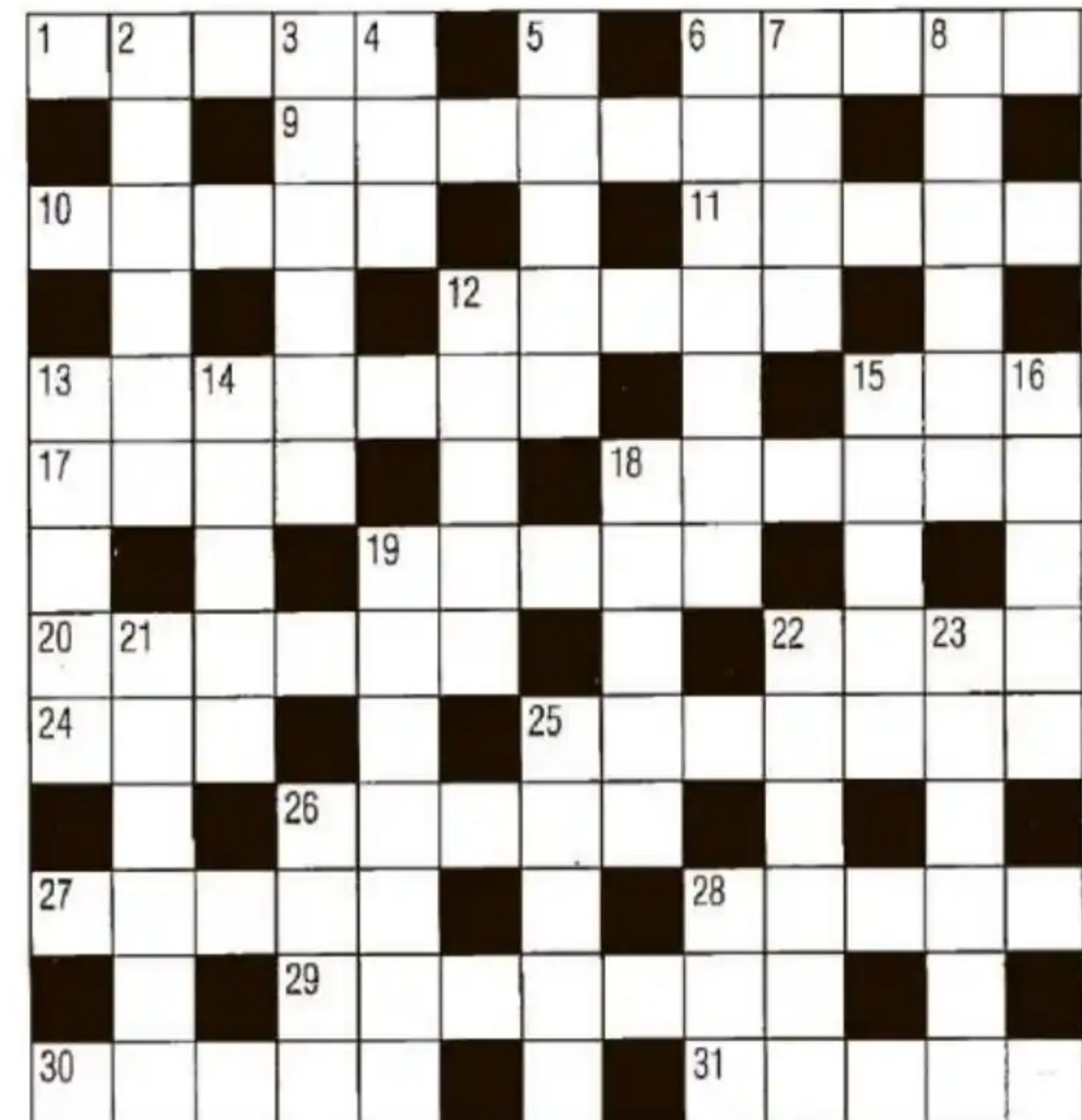
Beetle Bailey



Marvin



CROSSWORD CHALLENGE 12452



- ACROSS**
- Card game (5)
 - Respond (5)
 - Furniture item (7)
 - Recreation (5)
 - Exclusive (5)
 - Smut (5)
 - Tranquillised (7)
 - Number (3)
 - Dutch cheese (4)
 - Chant (6)
 - Entity (5)
 - Fired (6)
 - Travel permit (4)
 - Previous day (3)
 - Current (7)
 - Aviator (5)
 - Finished (5)
 - Edible mollusc (5)
 - Chorus (7)
 - Defeats (5)
 - Accepted (5)
- DOWN**
- Jumped (6)
 - Yell (6)
 - Rubbish (3)
 - Furious (5)
 - Relaxing (7)
 - Engrave (4)
 - Selected (6)
 - Celebrated (5)
 - Feeling (5)
 - Routine (5)
 - Pick-me-up (5)
 - Asian country (5)
 - Metal bar (5)
 - Moreover (7)
 - Tree-lined street (6)
 - European capital (6)
 - Salty (6)
 - Travels (5)
 - Saucy (4)
 - Be seated (3)

CRYPTIC

- ACROSS**
- Where the port is rather oily? (5)
 - Keep a wary eye on a hunter, perhaps (5)
 - Go with the flow, we hear (7)
 - Slippery area suitable for fencing? (5)
 - 11 Communication regarding a key post? (5)
 - Scars made by points? (5)
 - Taken over (7)
 - 15 Thus written in musicology (3)
 - 17 A god with a love of noise? (4)
 - 18 Pinch the nose (6)
 - 19 What the horse did when I got cast out? (5)
 - 20 Notices in taxis? (6)
 - 22 Bitterness, yet it's good for everybody! (4)
 - 24 The age of Leonidas (3)
 - 25 Inclined to be biased (7)
 - 26 Agents with a shrewd head for food (5)
 - 27 What to do when the price is raised? (3,2)
 - 28 With muddled wits, Oliver's about finished (5)
 - 29 In a dream, think highly about one (7)
 - 30 The boy's a bit of a trumpeter (5)
 - 31 Prepares to publish how a police inspector got set about (5)

- DOWN**
- Man's team? (6)
 - Following the ship like an aquatic bird (6)
 - It's cold, one notes (3)
 - 5 Secondary highway in Norfolk (5)
 - 6 Time lost in a classic movie (7)
 - 7 Charm school members (4)
 - 8 Treatment place not quite nice for many (6)
 - 12 Perhaps purplish fluid, methinks not ink (5)
 - 13 The power to see in front? (5)
 - 14 Where to obtain wrought iron around Peterhead (5)
 - 15 A tot's funny animal? (5)
 - 16 One raised for some while in outer Clwyd (5)
 - 18 Markets less concerned possibly about money (5)
 - 19 Jumpy captain? (7)
 - 21 Where Cleo madly embraced a boy (6)
 - 22 Behaved like a rat (6)
 - 23 Makes off with fancy gilets (4,2)
 - 25 Cut a woman in (5)
 - 26 Dependable as a clever ruse (4)
 - 28 It's over, the race is finished, but nobody won outright (3)

SOLUTIONS TO CROSSWORD 12451

CRYPTIC

ACROSS: 4, Mope-d-s 7, Arab-Ella 8, Thru-sh 10, A-live 13, Char 14, Demi 15, Ma's-s 16, Pro 17, Soap 19, Tart 21, R-out-in-Ely 23, Pert 24, Toni 26, Si-X 27, Scat 29, Cain 32, Deal 33, Verne 34, Davits 35, Tomatoes 36, Revels.

DOWN: 1, Salad 2, MA-xim 3, Here 4, Maths 5, Pu-RR 6, D-esert 9, Hasten 11, L-e.g. 12, Visor 13, Ca-pit-al 15, Mat 16, Piry 18, Out-set 20, Alice (Springs) 21, REW-22, N-O-T 23, Private 25, PIN 28, Casts 30, Arson 31, NEWS-Y 32, Dime 33, Veal.

Hagar The Horrible



Peanuts



◆ SU-DO-KU-6948 ◆

		1	5			6	
			1	4			2
					9	1	
3						8	2
	1	7				6	5
2	6	8					9
		3	7				
8				9	3		
	9				8	3	

1	3	7	4	5	9	2	6	8
4	9	5	6	8	2	1	7	3
2	6	8	3	7	1	5	9	4
3	8	2	1	9	5	6	4	7
5	7	9	8	6	4	3	1	2
6	1	4	2	3	7	9	8	5
8	5	1	9	4	3	7	2	6
7	2	6	5	1	8	4	3	9
9	4	3	7	2	6	8	5	1

SOLUTION TO 6947

To solve the puzzle: To solve a su-do-ku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows, and in each of the nine boxes.

SCRABBLE™

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R1A1A1E1M1L1C1

L1E1U1G1L1T1L1

S1R1O1O1I1U1T1

I1C1I1S1D1H1E1

5th Letter Double

RACK 1

RACK 2

RACK 3

RACK 4

PAR SCORE 105-115

by JUDD

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in the Collins English Dictionary. JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

T1I1S1S1U1E1S1

B1L1A1R1N1E1Y1

A1P1P1E1N1D1

C1O1U1N1T1R1Y1

RACK 1 = 57

RACK 2 = 74

RACK 3 = 33

RACK 4 = 62

PAR SCORE 145-155

JUDD'S TOTAL

226

HITORI-3402

5	7	5	3	8	4	6	2
5	3	8	7	5	2	1	5
2	5	4	5	5	7	8	2
3	6	7	5	7	8	5	1
5	8	6	2	5	3	1	4
8	2	5	6	1	5	4	5
6	5	2	8	3	5	5	7
2	1	3	4	5	6	2	1

SOLUTION TO 3401

6	8	4	1	3
7	3	5	6	2
5	7	3	8	6
1	3	5	7	4
4	1	8	7	5
4	2	1	7	3
3	2	6	1	7
1	6	8	3	5

To solve the puzzle: Eliminate numbers by filling in squares so that remaining cells in that row or column do not repeat that number more than once. Filled-in cells cannot be horizontally or vertically adjacent. The un-filled cells must form a single component connected horizontally and vertically.

KAKURO- 3402

10	39	3	12	9	23
7		11		21	
3		13		12	
24		11		17	
16	8		14	22	10
6		23		11	14
10	7	6		10	16
3		7	7	8	13
5			12		8

SOLUTION TO 3401

1	3	1	7	9	6
8	9	8	9	1	8
8	7	1	3	1	4
3	4	6	3	5	
7	9	7	3	5	1
8	5	1	8	1	2
3	2	9	4	1	3
7	4	1	2	4	8
9	8	3	9	1	2
6	1	3	8	9	1
2	1	6	2	1	7

To solve the puzzle: Put a number from 1 through 9 in a cell. No zeros. A number in a cell separated by diagonal line tells the sum of numbers in consecutive cells at its right or downward. No number may appear more than once in consecutive cells.

SU DO KU X - 3965

1					
2			3	8	6
3					7
				5	1
8			9		
5			6		4
	8		7	2	
					9
					5

SOLUTION TO 3964

1	2	6	5	4	3	8	7	9
3	9	5	2	7	8	6	4	1
7	8	4	1	9	6	3	2	5
2	4	9	6	3	7	1	5	8
8	6	1	4	5	9	2	3	7
5	3	7	8	1	2	4	9	6
9	5	2	3	8	1	7	6	4
4	1	3	7	6	5	9	8	2
6	7	8	9	2	4	5	1	3

To solve the puzzle: The objective is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column, each 3x3 box and each shaded diagonal line contains the same number only once.

‘Countdown to history’: India’s first private orbital rocket set for launch

Skyroot's Vikram-1 to take off between July 12 & Aug 4

KALYAN RAY
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Vikram-1, India's first private sector orbital-class rocket, is set for its maiden flight between July 12 and August 4, developer Skyroot Aerospace said on Thursday, disclosing the long-awaited launch window.

Designed to carry small satellites weighing up to 350 kg to Low Earth Orbit, Vikram-1's maiden mission will target an orbit at an altitude of 450 km. The lift-off will take place from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota, the company said.

“What once was a bold dream now stands tall on the launch pad. Vikram-1 is India's first private orbital rocket, and the countdown to history begins,” Skyroot co-founder and

CEO Pawan Kumar Chandana said in a social media post.

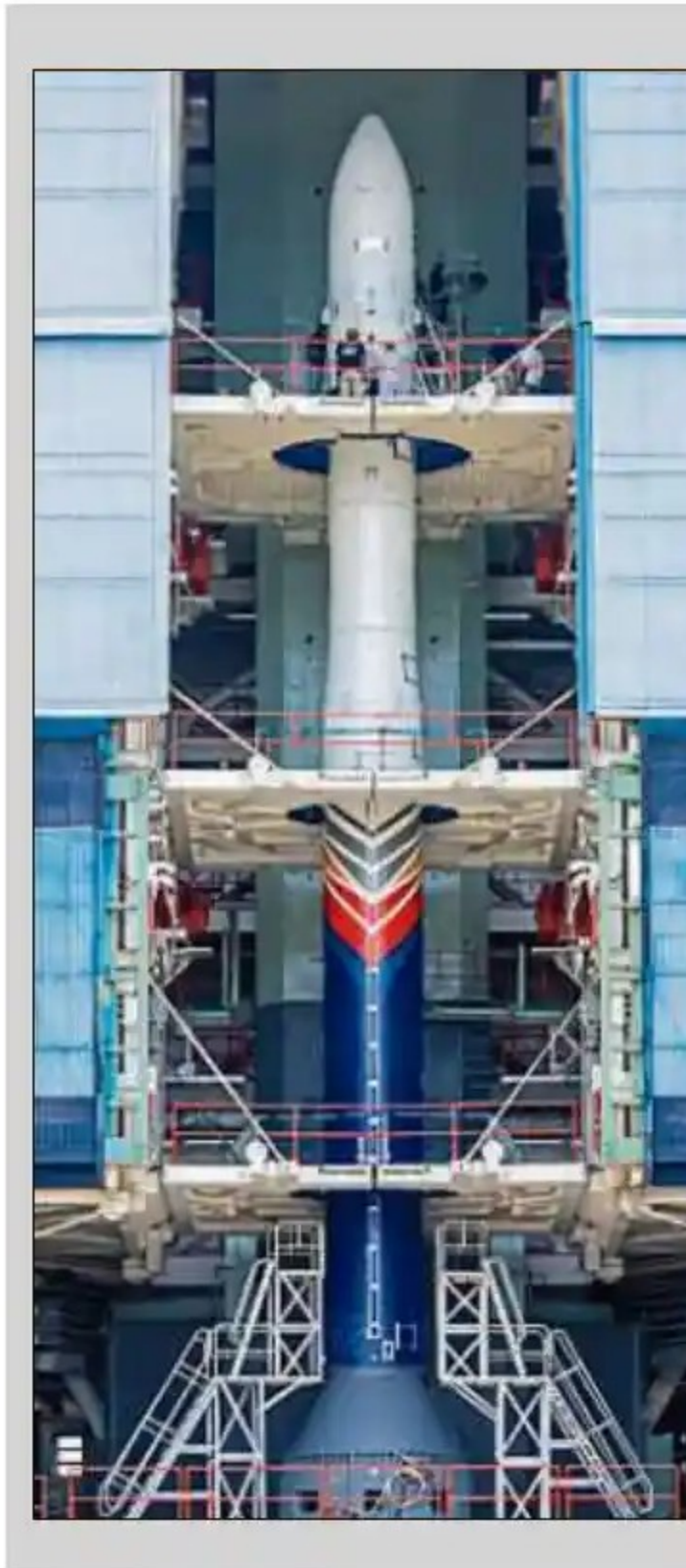
Named Mission Agaman, Vikram-1's first launch will be partially commercial, with the company planning to start full commercial flights after one or two successful demonstration flights.

This comes more than three years after the first flight of its sub-orbital rocket Vikram-S in November 2022.

A seven-storey-tall, multi-stage rocket, it was built with an all-carbon composite structure and powered by in-house developed propulsion systems, including 3D-printed engines and high-thrust solid-fuel boosters.

The satellite launch vehicle is named after Vikram Sarabhai, the father of the Indian space programme.

The Mission Agaman will



Mission AGAMAN

Vikram-1 designed to carry small satellites up to 350 kg

Named after Vikram Sarabhai, father of India's space programme

Mission Agaman to gather data across propulsion, stage separation, navigation

Skyroot plans full commercial flights after demos

Vikram-1 will lift off from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota. PHOTO CREDIT: SKYROOT AEROSPACE

gather critical data across propulsion, stage separation, guidance, navigation, control and overall vehicle performance, to help Skyroot Aerospace grow into a commercial launch company.

For decades, the space sector in India was under strict government control, with the Indian Space Research Organisation being the sole player in the launch and satellite business.

The Centre introduced a series of structural reforms in June 2020 to open the sector to private industry. Since then, India's space economy has grown to an estimated \$8.4 billion, with 399 startups operating across launch vehicles, satellites, propulsion systems and space-grade electronics.

With the global space economy projected to expand from \$596 billion in 2024 to \$1.8 trillion by 2035, India is on course to quadruple its share — from nearly 2% at present to about 8% over the next decade, according to a KPMG report.

Private launch vehicles and satellites will be two critical components driving this growth.

For India, the ability to reach orbit reliably and frequently is a strategic capability that only a handful of nations possess, the company said.

It also noted that access to space currently remains a major bottleneck, with satellite operators often waiting months or even years for a launch opportunity.

“From a dream to build a launch vehicle in India to now attempting an orbital flight has been a journey like no other. With Vikram-S in 2022, we validated the foundation of our technology stack.

“With Vikram-1, we take our biggest step yet towards a reliable, high-cadence launch programme built in India, for India and the world,” said Naga Bharath Daka, co-founder and chief operating officer, Skyroot Aerospace.

Navy thwarts piracy attempt on vessel headed for India

NEW DELHI, DHNS



Indian naval ship Trikanth, a mission-deployed stealth frigate operating in the Gulf of Aden, responded to a piracy attempt on MV Golden Arsenal, a St Vincent and the Grenadines-flagged bulk carrier. PTI

Indian Navy warship INS Trikanth thwarted a piracy attempt in the Gulf of Aden last night as pirates fled when it approached a bulk carrier.

Subsequently, marine commandos boarded the affected vessel, MV Golden Arsenal, and sanitised it.

The ship has resumed its journey and is heading for Thoothukudi, carrying critical cargo for India.

MV Golden Arsenal — a St Vincent and the Grenadines-flagged bulk carrier — reported on July 1 an attempted pirate attack approximately 300 nautical miles east-northeast of Djibouti while transiting from Aden.

The incident was reported to several agencies, including India's Information Fusion Centre—Indian Ocean Region, following which INS Trikanth—mission-deployed in the region — was directed to intercept the merchant vessel.

The crew locked themselves in a safe room and reported the piracy attempt on a communication channel. The pirates fled when they saw the Indian Navy warship approaching.

The merchant vessel, carrying 21 crew members, in-

cluding one Indian national, reported damage to the bridge superstructure and adjoining compartments. The crew was reported safe.

On Thursday morning, a boarding team from INS Trikanth boarded MV Golden Arsenal to sanitise the vessel and assess the situation. Following a thorough search, no suspicious personnel were found onboard. The crew subsequently exited the citadel safely and, along with Indian Navy personnel, commenced an assessment of the vessel's condition.

“With the vessel sanitised

and the immediate threat neutralised, anti-piracy operations by INS Trikanth have concluded. And, MV Golden Arsenal has since resumed her onward voyage,” a navy spokesperson said.

Meanwhile, an Indian Navy P-8I maritime patrol aircraft was deployed to undertake aerial surveillance and reconnaissance in the area, officials said. Since December 2023, there has been an increase in piracy attempts in the Arabian Sea after a gap of seven-eight years.

The Indian Navy warships has thwarted nearly 20 such piracy attempts.

BJP accuses Vadras of land grab

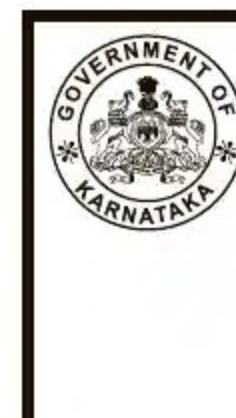
NEW DELHI, DHNS: The BJP on Thursday accused Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and her husband Robert Vadra of being involved in an alleged attempt to acquire a four-acre land parcel in Uttarakhanda, claiming that a 90-year-old woman was forced to vacate her property.

Addressing a press conference, BJP national spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla alleged that the land in question belonged to an elderly woman and that efforts were

made to force her relocation after attempts to acquire the property through legal means failed.

“When the legal route fails, they (Priyanka Gandhi and Robert Vadra) intimidate,” Poonawalla said. The BJP leader claimed that the episode reflected a pattern of land-related controversies associated with the Vadras.

The Congress had not immediately responded to the allegations at the time of filing this report.



BANGALORE URBAN ZILLA PANCHAYATH

Office of the Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, First Floor, Zilla Panchayat Building, S. Kariyappa Road, Banashankari (Near Banashankari Temple), Bengaluru-560070

KPPP TENDER NOTICE

Single Cover System

Tender Notification No.: EE/PRED/BNG(U)/TND/AE-2/21/2026-27 Date: 01.07.2026

Tenders are invited through KPPP Portal by the Executive Engineer, P.R.E.D. Bangalore Urban, for MLA, 4202, Varga-1, MP, KPS & PMSHRI GRANTS Works. The work details can be obtained from the KPPP Web Site. The tender documents can be obtained and submitted on or before dated: **17.07.2026 upto 4:00 p.m.** Further details can be obtained from web site at <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> or contact this office during office working hours.

Sd/-, Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Bangalore Urban Dist., Bengaluru

DIPRI/CP/ILC/1443/2026-27



MANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka undertaking)

Corporate Office, “MESCOM BHAVANA”, Bejai, Mangalore - 575 004

Ph: 0824-2885761 CIN: U40109 KA 2002 SGC 030425

Date: 02.07.2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

MESCOM invites tenders for 3 Packages of Civil Engineering works through E-Procurement portal from registered Class-I and above PWD Contractors with EPF, ESI & GST registration in accordance with KPPP Act. INDENT No: **MESCOM-2026-27/BD/WORK_INDENT 495,496,497.**

For details contractors can access through E-Procurement website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after **03.07.2026**. Further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/-,

Superintending Engineer (Ele) (Tech)

DIPRI/DK/KS/MCA/448/26-27 dt: 02.07.2026

For Power Related Complaints contact:

MESCOM Helpline: 1912

☎ 9483041912 📧 mescom_official 🌐 mescom_official

Government of Karnataka

Office of The Administrative Medical Officer, Sub Divisional Hospital, Sagar.

No.: SDH/e-Tender/Drugs/28-2026-27 Date: 25.06.2026

e-Tender Notice regarding purchase of Drugs and Laboratory Chemicals.

e-Tender is invited through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (KPPP) as per two tender document system from eligible firms for availing supply of Drugs for Sub Divisional Hospital, Sagar and Mother and Children Hospital, Sagar and interested, eligible Tenderers can upload the rates. Last date for uploading the rates: 21.07.2026 and for further details in this regard, it is requested to log on to website <http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in>

Sd/- Administrative Medical Officer, Sub Divisional Hospital, Sagar.

DIPRI/smg/KSMCA/SMG/26-27/10/07/453

Govt proposes upgraded standards for road ambulances

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has proposed key amendments to the Automotive Industry Standard (AIS)-125 to enhance the safety, functionality, and medical capabilities of road ambulances nationwide.

To ensure quality and consistency, the ministry had notified AIS-125 (Part I) on September 8, 2016, laying down constructional and functional requirements for these vehicles, a statement said.

AIS-125 (Part 2) was later introduced as a guideline for medical equipment suited to different categories of ambulances.

The latest amendments to both parts of AIS-125 will focus on strengthening safety features and operational efficiency.

A draft notification detailing the amendments has been uploaded on the ministry's website, inviting public comments.

The revised norms are expected to take effect from the date specified in the final notification.

Siya, Chetan to face lie-detector test in Pune fort murder case

MUMBAI, DHNS: With Siya Goyal and Chetan Choudhary passing the blame onto each other vis-a-vis pushing Ketan Agarwal to his death from the Lohagad Fort in the hill station of Lonavla in Maharashtra's Pune district, the police are planning to conduct a lie-detector test on the accused.

Siya (20) and Ketan (26) were scheduled to marry in November this year. However, Siya was allegedly in a relationship with Chetan (22).

Siya and Chetan are said to have hatched a conspiracy to kill Ketan.

Siya and Chetan are in the custody of the Lonavla Grameen Police Station, and will be produced in court on Friday.

The accused seem to be shifting the blame onto each other, prompting the police to opt for a lie-detector test.



ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪತ್ರ

ಅಧಿಕೃತವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾದುದು

ಸಂಪುಟ ೧೬೧
Volume 161

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ಬುಧವಾರ, ೨೪, ಜೂನ್, ೨೦೨೬ (ಆಷಾಡ ೦೩, ಶಕವರ್ಷ, ೧೯೪೮)
Bengaluru, Wednesday, 24, June 2026 (Ashadha, 03, Shakavarsha 1948)

ಸಂಚಿಕೆ ೧೨೨
Issue 122



ಭಾಗ ೩

ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆಯಾ ಇಲಾಖೆಗಳ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಗಳು

ನಮೂನೆ-V

ಗೃಹ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗೃಹ ಮಂಡಳಿ, ಕಾವೇರಿ ಭವನ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.

[ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ನಿಯಮ-5, 20(1) (ಬಿ)]

ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು, ಪುನರ್‌ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ-2013 ಕಲಂ-11(1) ರ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ.

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: KHB/SLAO/ACQ/68/2026 (E-290080)

ದಿನಾಂಕ: 12.06.2026

ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಉದ್ದೇಶಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಅಂದರೆ ವಸತಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗಾಗಿ ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಜಗಳೂರು ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಕಸಬಾ ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಮರೇನಹಳ್ಳಿ, ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಅನುಸೂಚಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಣಿಸಿರುವ ಜಮೀನುಗಳ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನತೆಯ ಅವಶ್ಯಕತೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆಯೆಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಭಾವಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು, ಪುನರ್ ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ-2013 (2013 ರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 30) ಕ್ಕೆ ಅನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುವಂತೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ:- 23-07-2019 ರಿಂದ ಜಾರಿಗೆ ಬಂದಿರುವ ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು, ಪುನರ್ ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ (ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ) ಕಾಯ್ದೆ-2019 (2019 ರ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 16) ರ ಕಲಂ-10(ಎ) ರಡಿ ಮೂಲ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯ ಅಧ್ಯಾಯ II & III ರಲ್ಲಿನ ಉಪಬಂಧಗಳನ್ನು ಅನ್ವಯಿಸುವುದರಿಂದ ವಿನಾಯಿತಿ ನೀಡಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:- ಕಂಇ 27 ಎಕ್ಸೂಸ್ 2026 ದಿ:-02-05-2026ರಲ್ಲಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಈ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಪತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 08-05-2026ರಂದು ಪ್ರಕಟವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಅದುದರಿಂದ ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು, ಪುನರ್ ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ-2013 (2013 ರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 30) ರ ಕಲಂ 12 ರ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಪ್ರದತ್ತವಾದ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಚಲಾಯಿಸುವಂತೆ ಗೃಹ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗೃಹ ಮಂಡಳಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇವರಿಗೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಈ ಜಮೀನುಗಳ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಕೆಲಸ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವಲ್ಲಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ಸೇಮಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಮೋಜಣಿದಾರರಿಗಾಗಿ ಅಥವಾ ಈ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುವವರಿಗಾಗಲೀ ಯಾರೂ ಅಡ್ಡಿ ಮಾಡಕೂಡದಂದು ಎಚ್ಚರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು, ಪುನರ್ ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣದ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ-2013 (2013 ರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 30) ರ ಕಲಂ-11(1) ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಈ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಗೊಂಡ ದಿನಾಂಕದಿಂದ ಸದರಿ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಿರುವ ಭೂಮಿಯನ್ನು ಒಪ್ಪಂದದ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ವಿಕ್ರಯಿಸುವ ಬೋಗಕ್ಕೆ, ಅಡಮಿದುವ, ಅನುಭವಿಸುವ, ಬದಲಾಯಿಸುವ ಅಥವಾ ಇನ್ನೂ ಯಾವುದೇ ರೀತಿಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳದಂತೆ ನಿರ್ಬಂಧಿಸಿದೆ. ಅಂತಹ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕ್ರಮ ಅಥವಾ ಇನ್ನಾವುದೇ ರೀತಿಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಂಡಲ್ಲಿ ಅದನ್ನು ಐತೀರ್ಪು ರಚಿಸುವಾಗ ಗಣನೆಗೆ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳದೇ ಅಂತಿಮವಾಗಿ ಸದರಿ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯನ್ವಯ ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುವುದೆಂದು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ, ಸೂಕ್ತ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಹಕ್ಕು, ಪುನರ್ ವಸತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪುನರ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ-2013 (2013 ರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 30) ರ ಕಲಂ 15(1) ರ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳವರು ತಮ್ಮ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪವಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಗೊಂಡ 60 ದಿನಗಳೊಳಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು. ತದನಂತರ ಸ್ವೀಕೃತವಾಗುವ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಯಾವುದೇ ಮುನ್ಸೂಚನೆ ನೀಡದೆ ವಿಲೇಯಕ್ಕೆ ಹಾಕಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸದರಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಪಡುವ ಜಮೀನಿನ ಒಂದು ನಕ್ಷೆಯನ್ನು ವಿಶೇಷ ಭೂಸ್ವಾಧೀನಾಧಿಕಾರಿ-2, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗೃಹ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಇವರ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆಗಾಗಿ ಇಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಅನುಸೂಚಿ

ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ : ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ		ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು: ಜಗಳೂರು		ಹೋಬಳಿ: ಕಸಬಾ				ಗ್ರಾಮ : ಮರೇನಹಳ್ಳಿ					
ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ.	ಪಹಣಿಯಂತೆ ಖಾತೆದಾರರ ಹೆಸರು	ಸರ್ವೆ / ಖಾತಾ ನಂಬರ್	ಸರ್ವೆ/ಖಾತಾ ನಂಬರಿನಲ್ಲಿನ ಒಟ್ಟು ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ (ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್/ಉತ್ತರ ಅನ್ವಯ)	ಭೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನಕ್ಕೊಳಪಡುವ ಒಟ್ಟು ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ		ತರಹೆ	ಚಕ್ಕುಬಂದಿ / ಸರಹದ್ದು				ಷರಾ		
	ಭೂಮಾಲೀಕರು/ಹಿಡುವಳಿದಾರರ ಹೆಸರು		ಅನುಭವದಾರರ ಹೆಸರು	ಕೃಷಿ / ಕೃಷಿಯೇತರ ಜಮೀನು (ಎ-ಗುಂ)	ವಿರಾಬು (ಎ-ಗುಂ)		ಕೃಷಿ / ಕೃಷಿಯೇತರ ಜಮೀನು (ಎ-ಗುಂ)	ವಿರಾಬು (ಎ-ಗುಂ)	ಪೂರ್ವ	ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ		ಉತ್ತರ	ದಕ್ಷಿಣ
1	2	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
1.	ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ.ಸಿ ಸಿದ್ದೇಶ್ ಬಿನ್ ಲೇಟ್ ಚನ್ನಪ್ಪ	17/1	01-32	0-00.08	01-32	0-00.08	ಮಿಷ್ಕಿ	ಸ ನಂ. 15	ಸ ನಂ. 19/2ಎ	ಸ ನಂ. 18/2, 3 , 4, 5	ಸ ನಂ. 17/4		
2.	ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ.ಸಿ ಶಂಭುಲಿಂಗಪ್ಪ ಬಿನ್ ಲೇಟ್ ಚನ್ನಪ್ಪ	17/4	01-31.08	0-00.08	01-31.08	0-00.08	ಮಿಷ್ಕಿ	ಸ ನಂ. 15	ಸ ನಂ. 19/2ಎ	ಸ ನಂ. 17/1	ಸ ನಂ. 17/5		
3.	ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ.ಸಿ ನಾಗರಾಜು ಬಿನ್ ಲೇಟ್ ಚನ್ನಪ್ಪ	17/5	01-32	0-00.08	01-32	0-00.08	ಮಿಷ್ಕಿ	ಸ ನಂ. 15	ಸ ನಂ. 19/2ಎ & 19/3	ಸ ನಂ. 17/4	ಸ ನಂ. 17/6		
ಒಟ್ಟು						05-15	0-01.08						

(ವಿ.ಸೂ: ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿರುವಂತೆ ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳವರು ತಮ್ಮ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣಾ ಅರ್ಜಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂಚೆ ವಿಳಾಸ ಮತ್ತು ಪೊಸ್ಟಲ್ ನಂಬರನ್ನು ತಪ್ಪದೇ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟವಾಗಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವುದು)

ಘೋಷ್ವಾರೆ

ತರಹೆ	ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ (ಎ-ಗು)	ವಿರಾಬು (ಎ-ಗು)	ಒಟ್ಟು ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ (ಎ-ಗು)
ಮರೇನಹಳ್ಳಿ	05	15	00
	01.08	05	16.08

DIPRI/CP/RO1435/AAPL/2026-27

ಸಹಿ/- ಗೃಹ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗೃಹ ಮಂಡಳಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.

Pak alleges India seeks to control shared rivers

ISLAMABAD, PTI: Pakistan on Thursday rejected what it alleged was India's attempt to control shared rivers by treating water as a "strategic asset", particularly in the case of the Indus basin.

Foreign Office spokesperson Tahir Andrabi made the remarks during his weekly press briefing in response to a question about India's decision to place the Indus Waters Treaty in "abeyance".

India took a series of punitive measures against Pakistan a day after last year's Pahalgam terror attack on April 22. One of the major steps was placing the 1960 IWT, which has governed the distribution and use of the Indus River and its tributaries, in "abeyance".

Andrabi said Pakistan rejected "India's attempt to invoke baseless allegations of terrorism as a pretext for placing the Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance". "The real issue is the growing disposition within the Indian leadership to treat a shared international river system as a strategic asset," he alleged.

Andrabi said water is not a tool of coercion or political pressure, and any attempt to deny Pakistan its legitimate share constituted a clear violation of legal obligations undertaken by India. Under the IWT, brokered by the World Bank, Pakistan received the entire flows of Chenab, Jhelum and Indus while India retained full rights over Sutlej, Beas and Ravi.

Major Russian attack kills 20 civilians in Kyiv

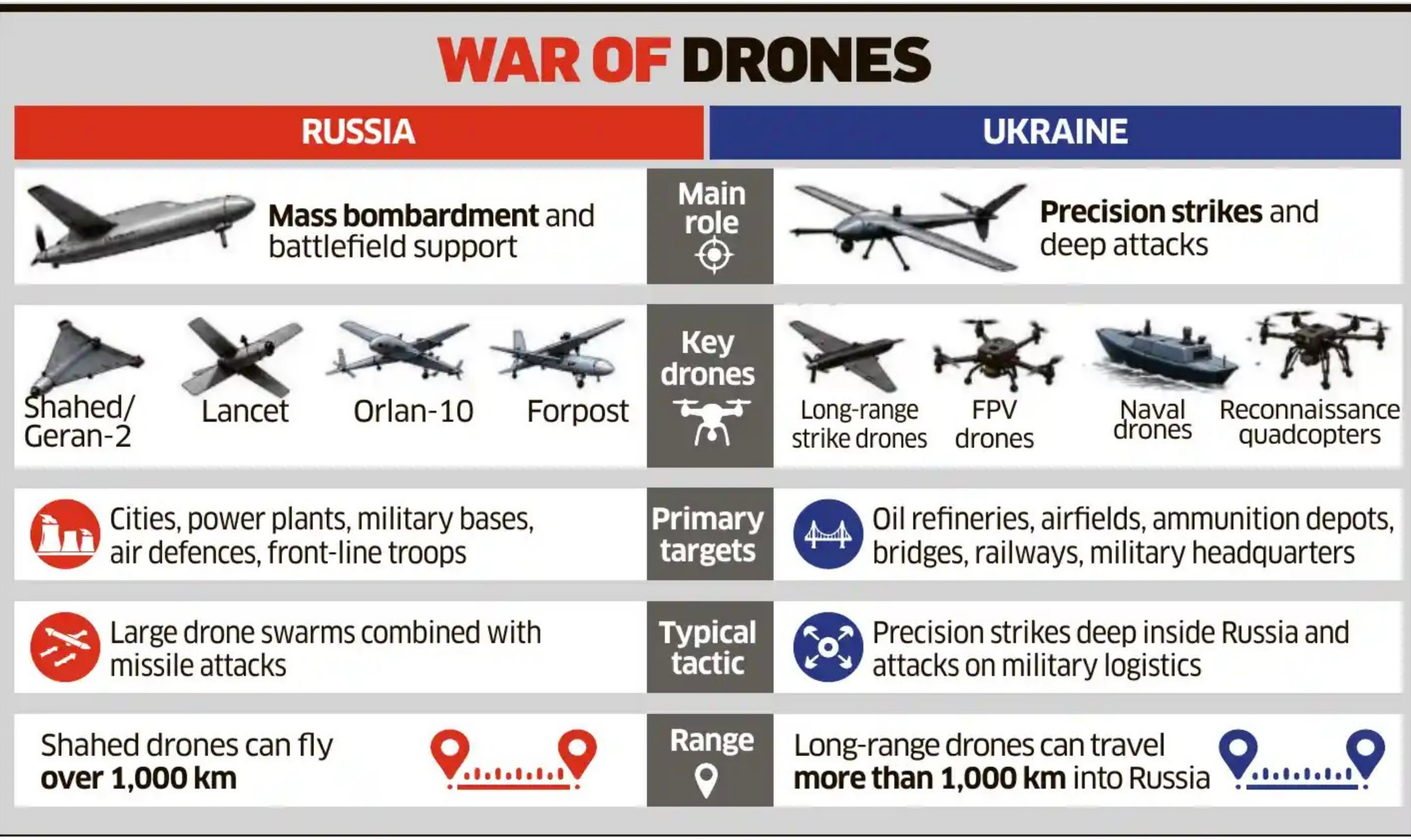
Moscow says strikes response to attacks on oil facilities

KYIV, AP/PTI

Russia hammered Kyiv in an 11-hour drone and missile attack overnight into Thursday morning, killing at least 20 civilians in the city and injuring scores more in what Moscow said was retaliation for Ukrainian strikes on Russian oil facilities.

Loud explosions shook the Ukrainian capital for hours overnight, with many people sheltering in subway stations after authorities issued air raid warnings. Emergency crews were still digging through the rubble of collapsed and charred apartment buildings in search of victims as dawn broke. Russia's Defence Ministry said in a statement that the deadly bombardment was in response to Ukraine's long-range strikes that have caused severe fuel shortages and put pressure on President Vladimir Putin.

Ukraine's increasingly frequent and large-scale attacks — described by Zelenskyy as a 40-day blitz — have especially targeted oil refineries, causing a fuel crisis that has frustrated many Russians, more than four



years after Moscow's full-scale invasion of its neighbour.

Ukrainian officials say they are trying to force Putin to the negotiating table, but so far Moscow's response has been to hit back.

Diplomatic efforts to end the war, most recently by the Trump administration, have not produced results. Putin thinks that time is on his side, that Western support will peter out and that Ukraine's resistance will eventually collapse under pressure from strategic bombing, Western analysts say.

The attack killed 20 people in Kyiv, according to Kyiv city administration head Tymur Tkachenko. More than 90 others were injured, according to

Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko. Foreign Minister Andrii Sybha said it was a "night of horror" in the capital.

Damage was recorded at 30 locations across the city, mainly residential buildings and civilian infrastructure, according to Tymur Tkachenko, head of the Kyiv City Military Administration. Some 20 residential buildings were damaged, Interior Minister Ihor Klymenko said.

Flashes from exploding drones and missiles lit up the night, and loud booms echoed through Kyiv. Tracers from air defence fire streaked through the air as a huge pall of black smoke rose into the sky.

Kyiv resident Serhii Budko

said three or four ballistic missiles hit his district of the city. "We were inside the shelter and felt the shelter shaking — the ceiling and floor, everything," the 24-year-old told The Associated Press.

Russia's General Staff chief, Gen Valery Gerasimov, reported the results of the "massive retaliatory strike" to Putin, Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said. The bombardment was "exclusively against military or military-linked targets," Peskov said.

Russia's aerial attacks on Ukraine have repeatedly hit civilian areas. More than 16,000 Ukrainian civilians have been killed in the war, according to the United Nations.

OpenAI discussed 5% stake to US govt to iron out creases: Report

WASHINGTON, AFP: OpenAI has discussed giving the US government a 5% ownership stake as the artificial intelligence giant seeks to smooth relations with the Trump administration, the Financial Times reported on Thursday.

CEO Sam Altman has argued that giving the public a financial stake in the \$852 billion company is the best way to share the benefits of AI. According to the report, which cited people familiar with the talks, Altman has raised the idea with White House officials, including President Donald Trump, Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick and Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent.

The arrangement would see other leading US AI companies hand over a similar stake, with OpenAI suggesting each developer allot 5% of its equity to a special investment vehicle. This would be modelled on the Alaska Permanent Fund, which invests the state's oil wealth and pays dividends to residents, the Financial Times said.

The talks were described as being in the early stages, with any deal potentially requiring an Act of Congress, the reports said. AI companies have faced growing political headwinds in Washington as lawmakers and the public raise concerns about massive data centre construction, job displacement and cybersecurity risks.

WORLD AT A GLANCE



A protester shouts at police officers during a demonstration against a planned luxury resort backed by Jared Kushner — US President Donald Trump's son-in-law — in Tirana, Albania, on Thursday. REUTERS

Bomb explodes at Damascus cafe, killing at least 9 people

► An explosive device was detonated on Thursday in a cafe in the Syrian capital of Damascus, killing at least nine people, AP/PTI reports from Damascus.

The explosion near the main courthouse complex left 20 others wounded, the ministry said as reported by Syria's state-run Al-Ikhbariya network. No group immediately claimed responsibility. Security forces rushed to the cafe and cordoned off the area as they investigate the attack. The Interior Ministry is set to announce its initial findings soon, said Damascus Gov. Maher Idlibi. Idlibi said the device appeared

"primitive" and vowed that the perpetrators will be held to account. A video circulating on social media showed several wounded people lying on the ground, with police officers nearby. Ambulances later rushed to the scene treating people on site and taking the more severely wounded to hospitals in the Syrian capital. Since overthrowing the Assad dynasty and taking power in a lightning insurgency in December 2024, Syria's new rulers have cracked down on militants from the Islamic State in an attempt to thwart attacks in and around the capital.

Nigeria communal clash kills 48

► Inter-communal violence in Nigeria killed 48 people on Wednesday, AFP reports from Kano (Nigeria).

The report, prepared for the UN, said "herder militia" armed with machetes raided farmers from the Kamuku ethnic group in the town of Tegna in Niger state, "killing at least 42 people", prompting a reprisal that

killed six herders working on a plantation. Niger state is already reeling from deadly violence by jihadists, as well as kidnapping-for-ransom and cattle-rustling gangs known as bandits. A local leader, Abdullahi Alhasan, said herders from the Fulani tribe invaded the area, attacking residents with machetes and burning others alive.



Rescue workers transport Hernan Alberto Gil, who was trapped for 8 days at a collapsed mall following the June 24 earthquakes, in La Guaira, Venezuela, on Thursday. REUTERS

Pak told to preserve Taxila sites

► The UN has asked Pakistan to reverse the "reconstructions" that "undermined the integrity" of two historical sites in Taxila, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, or they would be placed on UNESCO's "danger list", PTI reports from Islamabad.

UNESCO, the cultural arm of the UN, recently told senior government officials that it would not

hesitate to "delist" the historical sites at Mohra Moradu and Sirkap, just as it had "delisted" a World Heritage Site in Germany, due to the recent "unnecessary interventions", the Dawn newspaper reported, quoting sources. The UN agency warned that it could delist Taxila from its World Heritage List if the actions were not reversed.

Wildfires sweep southern France

► Wildfires raged across southern France on Thursday after weeks of dry weather and record temperatures across the country, devastating large areas of land, AP/PTI reports from Paris.

The biggest fire spread across the Aude and Hérault regions, where up to 800 firefighters and 150 vehicles were deployed to tackle the flames that burned more than 900

hectares, local authorities said. Further fires broke out in the neighbouring Marseille region, where two blazes on Thursday were brought under control but had not yet been extinguished. Alain Bucquet, the Aude prefect, said fire services would receive support from two additional water-bomber aircraft, bringing the total number of Canadair planes at the site to four.



Singer Bad Bunny performs at the Vélodrome Stadium during his world tour in Marseille, France, on Wednesday. AFP

ಡಾ. ಮನಮೋಹನ್ ಸಿಂಗ್

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ

DR. MANMOHAN SINGH

BENGALURU CITY UNIVERSITY

Office of the Registrar, Central College Campus,
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru - 560001. E-mail: registrar@bcu.ac.in

No: BCU/ACA/PG-Adm/2026-27/033

Date: 01.07.2026

POSTGRADUATE ADMISSION NOTIFICATION FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026–27

Dr.Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University invites applications from eligible graduates for the following PG courses offered at Jnana Jyothi Central College Campus, University / P.G Centre, Byatarayanapura, Bagluru, Bengaluru and Affiliated Colleges for the Academic Year 2026-2027. **Registration through the Online UUCMS portal <https://uucms.karnataka.gov.in/Login/Index>**

P.G. COURSES OFFERED AT DR. MANMOHAN SINGH BENGALURU CITY UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS / PG CENTER, BYATARAYANAPURA, BAGALURU / AFFILIATED COLLEGES

Sl.No.	Courses Offered	Centers
1	Faculty of Arts M.A: 1. Kannada 2. English 3. French 4. German 5. Spanish 6. Japanese 7. Economics 8. History 9. Mass Communication and Journalism 10. Political Science 11. Sociology 12. Social Work. PG Diploma: 1. Chinese 2. German 3. Japanese 4. French 5. Spanish 6. Korean 7. Italian.	Dr.Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University, Jnanajyothi Central College Main Campus
	Faculty of Science M.Sc: 1. Physics 2. Chemistry 3. Mathematics 4. Biochemistry 5. Environment and Climate Change 6. Botany 7. Zoology 8. Computer Science 9. Fashion & Apparel Design Under Self Finance Scheme : 10. Biotechnology 11. Microbiology 12. M.L.I.Sc. - Master of Library and Information Science 13. Psychology 14. Forensic Science 15. Food and Nutrition 16. Embryology and Reproductive Technology PG Diploma: 1. Cyber Security 2. Bioinformatics.	
	Faculty of Commerce M.Com: 1.General 2. International Business 3.Financial Analysis 4. Financial Technology PG Diploma: 1. Business Administration 2. Human Resource Management 3. Marketing Management 4. Financial Management 5. Financial Technology	
	Faculty of Education MA: Education	
2	M.Com: General	P.G Centre, Byatarayanapura, Bagaluru, Bengaluru
3	M.A: 1. Kannada 2. English 3. History 4. Economics 5. Sociology 6. Political Science 7. Social Work 8. Mass Communication and Journalism. M.V.A: 1. Animation Design 2. Interior Design 3. Applied Arts 4. Art History 5. Painting 6. Print Making 7. Sculpture. M.Sc: 1. Physics 2. Chemistry 3. Mathematics 4. Biochemistry 5. Botany 6. Zoology 7. Computer Science 8. Food Science and Nutrition 9. Biotechnology 10. Microbiology 11. Psychology 12. Clinical Psychology 13. Speech Language Pathology 14. Interior Design and Decoration 15. Nutrition and Dietetics 16. Fashion and Apparel Design PG Diploma: 1. Psychological Counselling. M.Com: 1. General 2. Financial Analysis 3. International Business 4. MTM: Master of Tourism and Travel Management. PG Diploma: 1. Business Administration 2. Human Resource Management 3. Financial Management.	Affiliated Colleges (For details Please visit University Website)

PROCEDURE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORMS: 1) The candidates who wish to apply for PG programmes have to apply ONLINE through the UUCMS Online portal:<https://uucms.karnataka.gov.in/Login/Index>. from 01.07.2026 onwards. 2) Candidates awaiting final semester results may also apply for the selection. 3) The application fee of **Rs. 500/- (Rs.250/- for SC/ST, Category-I and transgender candidates of Karnataka Domicile only) for any 3 subjects** is payable through online only, via payment link provided in the UUCMS platform. For any additional subject **Rs. 100/-** is applicable. Rs. 50/- for SC/ST, Category-I and transgender candidates of Karnataka Domicile only). 4) Candidates can apply for more than one PG programme by selecting the required programmes in the online application. 5) For details of eligibility criteria, seat matrix, course fees, and list of Affiliated Colleges offering PG courses, please visit the University website: <https://bcu.ac.in> / <https://bcu.karnataka.gov.in>. 6) The last date for applying to PG courses of 2026-27 academic year without penal fee is **31.07.2026** However candidates can apply till **10.08.2026** with a penal fee of Rs. 250/-.. 7) The hard copies of the filled in online application along with photocopies of relevant documents shall be submitted separately to the Chairman of the respective PG Departments for which the candidates seek admission. 8) Applications submitted after the last date, or incomplete applications without relevant documents will be rejected without any notice. 9) Only applications submitted through UUCMS Portal will be considered for the selection of candidates for admission. 10) **Note:** If a minimum of 20 seats are not filled for a particular course, the University will not be running the course for the current academic year. 11) For more details, contact the Registrar, Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University, Central College Campus, Bengaluru - 560 001. E-Mail ID: registrar@bcu.ac.in & registrarbcu@gmail.com.

Sd/-

REGISTRAR

DIPR/CP/1454/Adverto/2026-27

Iran plans massive 6-day funeral for Khamenei

President urges mass turnout to show national unity

NYT NEWS SERVICE

There are few parallels in history to the size, scale and significance of the funeral that Iran's government is preparing for its slain supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

Starting on Friday in the capital, Tehran, and continuing for nearly a week, with ceremonies planned in at least five cities across Iran and Iraq, the funeral is expected to draw tens of millions of people, government officials have said.

Perhaps more striking than the funeral's complexity and scale is its symbolism at this moment. It comes more than



Motorists ride past a giant billboard bearing a picture of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei ahead of his funeral, in Tehran on Thursday. AFP

four months after Khamenei was killed in February at the outset of the US-Israeli war on Iran, and six months after Iran was gripped by nationwide protests calling for an end to his government.

While millions of mourners are expected to turn out next week, many Iranians remain

deeply dissatisfied with what Khamenei's rule brought to their country over nearly four decades of authoritarian government. He oversaw brutal repression, including the imprisonment, torture and killing of dissidents, and presided over widening corruption. When it became clear that he had been killed, some in Iran celebrated openly, at great risk to themselves.

Iran's President, Masoud Pezeshkian, urged Iranians "of every ethnicity, religion, preference and political tendency" to attend the funeral, explicitly linking turnout to the image the country wants to project internationally.

"Your widespread presence will be a decisive response to the logic of terrorism, violence and bullying, and a clear message to the world that the Iranian nation stands united and in solidarity in defending its independence and dignity," Pezeshkian said.

MERITOCRACY

Nooyi: I couldn't have become CEO in India

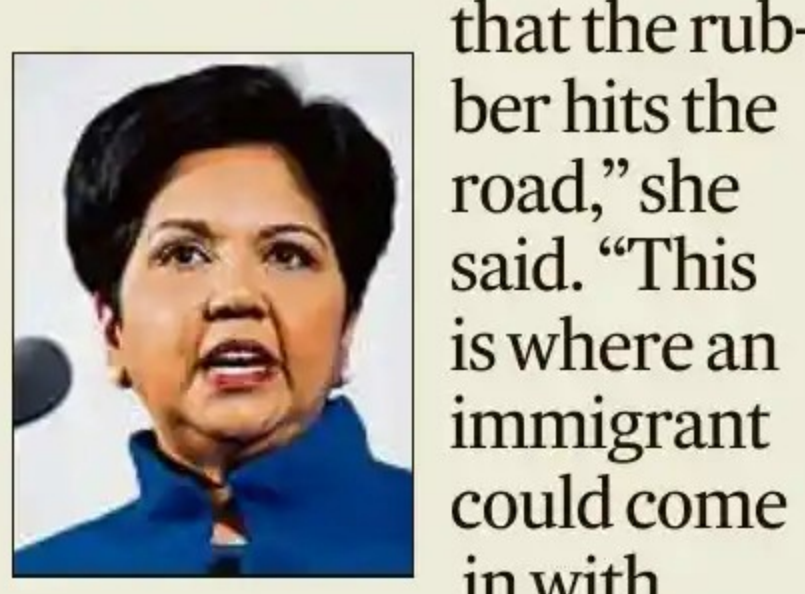
NEW YORK, PTI

Former PepsiCo chairperson and CEO Indra Nooyi said she "would never have been" the chief executive officer (CEO) of a global company in any other country, including India, asserting that the US "meritocratic" system made her rise possible.

"I say this to my daughters all the time. I say to them, 'You have no idea how lucky you are to be born in the greatest country in the world', and they look at me and say, 'Tell us how it's the greatest,'" Nooyi said during a conversation with former US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who is also the Tad and Dianne Taube Director of the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, on Wednesday.

The 70-year-old Indian-origin business executive said she explains to them the differences between life in the US and other parts of the world. "I'll start with technology. All the big technological innovations may have happened in other parts of the world, but they were commercialised here.

Technology being developed doesn't make any difference. It's when you commercialise it and make a difference in the world that the rubber hits the road," she said. "This is where an immigrant could come in with nothing in her pocket and become the CEO of an iconic American red, white and blue company," Nooyi said, highlighting the opportunities available to immigrants in the US.



"It can't happen in any other country in the world. I would never have been CEO in any other country in the world, including India. So, I look at them, and I say, 'Look at what I could achieve here — it's because the system is meritocratic. Mentors don't care whether you're male or female, or about your ethnicity or gender; they just want the best brains to rise to the top,'" she said. Urging her daughters to value those opportunities, Nooyi said they should do everything possible to preserve "the spirit of this country".

11-year-old driver kills nine monks in Thailand crash

BANGKOK, AP/PTI: An 11-year-old boy crashed a pickup truck into a group of monks on a pilgrimage in northeastern Thailand on Thursday, killing nine, officials said.

A total of 35 monks from Mukdahan province, about 600 km northeast of the capital, Bangkok, were on the pilgrimage. Five monks were killed at the scene, while four others died at a hospital. Thirteen were hospitalised, with three in critical condition, according to the provincial administration.

The group had started the 260-km walk to Ubol Ratthachani province about 30 minutes before the crash.

Security camera footage shared by the local rescue group, Ruam Jai Mukdahan Rescue Association, showed the monks walking in a single file along the side of the road before the truck crashed into them.

The boy is in custody and will be questioned when state child protection officers arrive, police said.

The cause of the accident is under investigation, but police said the monks described seeing the vehicle swerving before it left the road and crashed into the group.

Biz Bytes



EU top court upholds record 4.1 bn euro Google fine

BRUSSELS, AFP: The EU's top court upheld Thursday a record 4.1 billion euro (\$4.7 billion) fine the bloc slapped on Google for anti-competitive practices related to its Android operating system.

The European Court of Justice dismissed the US tech giant's second attempt to overturn the penalty imposed by the European Commission in 2018, which remains the EU's highest ever antitrust fine. "The Court of Justice dismisses the appeal brought by Google and Alphabet... thereby confirming the penalty imposed on them," the court said.

Alphabet, Google's parent company, was found jointly liable for part of the levy.

Zeta co-founder launches AI startup Neo

BENGALURU, DHNS: Zeta Co-founder Bhavin Turakhia on Thursday launched AI-native work platform Neo, which brings work, knowledge and AI execution into a single connected suite. He has committed \$30 million of his own capital to build the company, marking his biggest entrepreneurial bet since founding fintech unicorn Zeta.

The launch comes as enterprises worldwide search for practical ways to deploy AI beyond experimentation and into core business operations.

ToneTag launches voice assistant

BENGALURU, DHNS: Bengaluru-headquartered Deep-Tech platform ToneTag on Thursday launched eKosha, a voice-first business assistant for merchants. With more than 80 million MSMEs in India, banks have a significant opportunity to expand merchant services and strengthen everyday banking interactions. ToneTag said that by combining payments, banking and AI into a single device, eKosha delivers full banking capability at the point of payment. It added that banks adopting eKosha can reduce merchant servicing costs by up to 60%.

Banks must be cautious not to depend solely on AI: Experts

UMA KANNAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

Cyber incidents can disrupt critical financial infrastructure through service outages, data loss and payment system interruptions, while also eroding public trust in the financial system, RBI has warned in its recently released Financial Stability Report. It said that India remains exposed to these cyber attack risks with a high volume of attacks compared to other emerging market economies, and that AI-enabled cyber threats have emerged as the leading perceived risk over the next year.

Analysts said that financial service organisations must successfully prepare for the next generation of AI-based threats.

Mandar Patil, Executive Vice President, Cyble, an AI-native cybersecurity firm, said, the rate of growth for malicious activity on Indian networks continues to increase rapidly.

The issuance of the RBI's alert regarding the potential risk of AI-inspired and supported threats is well-timed and important for multiple reasons. He added that cybercriminals are now able to utilise AI tools such as voice

Maruti Suzuki opens new plant in Haryana; to enhance capacity

Will create over 21k jobs, support MSI's 4-mn unit drive

BENGALURU, DHNS

The country's largest car-maker, Maruti Suzuki India (MSI), on Thursday inaugurated its latest manufacturing facility at IMT Kharkhoda in Haryana. The plant was virtually inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Japanese counterpart, Sanae Takaichi, during the India-Japan Joint Economic Forum in New Delhi.

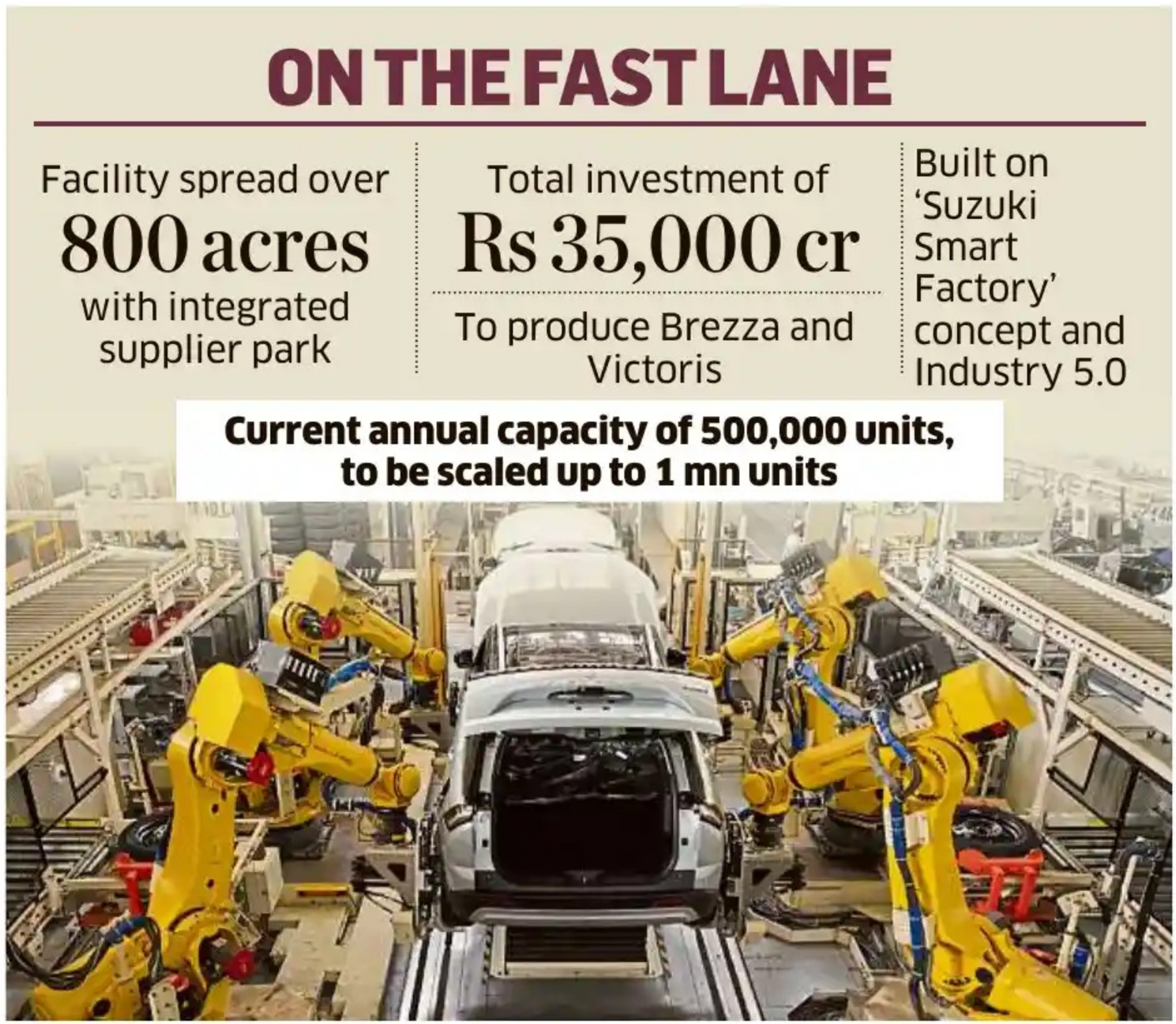
Spread across 800 acres and featuring an integrated supplier park, the facility has an initial production capacity of 500,000 units per year, with plans to scale it up to 1 million units annually. The total projected investment in the project is Rs 35,000 crore.

In a statement, MSI said the Kharkhoda plant, which will produce the Brezza and Victoris, will be among the largest vehicle manufacturing facilities in the world and will

play a key role in achieving the company's target of four million units of annual production capacity. The facility is also expected to generate more than 21,000 jobs.

The plant has been developed as a 'Suzuki Smart Factory', incorporating advanced digital technologies. "Further strengthening its future-ready capabilities, the plant integrates Industry 5.0 practices, including the deployment of human-aware collaborative robots (COBOTS), enabling seamless human-machine collaboration to achieve global benchmarks in quality and operational excellence," the company said.

Speaking on the occasion, Toshihiro Suzuki, Representative Director and President of Suzuki Motor Corporation, said, "From the current capacity of half-a-million units, the plant will be further scaled to one million units, making it one of the largest car plants in



Automatic tyre fitment in assembly shop at Maruti Suzuki's new car manufacturing plant in Haryana's Kharkhoda.

the world. It is a testament to the success of the India-Japan partnership.

The facility meets its entire electricity requirement through a combination of solar energy and green power procurement. It currently has an installed solar capacity of 20 MWp, which is planned to increase to 70 MWp by 2030. In addition, a 10-tonnes-per-day biogas plant and a 1 MWh Battery Energy Storage System are being installed. The plant

Suzuki-operated JIMs have cumulatively trained over 2,600 students.

With the commissioning of the Kharkhoda facility, Maruti Suzuki's manufacturing footprint now comprises 500,000 units at Gurugram (Haryana), 900,000 units at Manesar (Haryana), 750,000 units at Hansalpur (Gujarat), and 500,000 units at Kharkhoda (Haryana). The company's total installed capacity is expected to reach 2.9 million units annually after the commissioning of the fourth production line at Hansalpur.

"Over the years, India's importance has grown significantly within the Suzuki Group. Suzuki's first battery electric vehicle, the e VITARA, is manufactured exclusively at Maruti Suzuki's Gujarat plant for export to 100 countries. Thanks to exports of 'Made in India' cars, Suzuki has become the largest car importer in Japan, one of the world's most-demanding automobile markets. This is a strong reflection of how 'Make in India, Make for the World' is unfolding in practice, demonstrating growing global trust in India's manufacturing quality, capability and competitiveness," Suzuki said.

WhatsApp defends username feature amid rising concerns

NEW DELHI, DHNS: WhatsApp has asserted that username reservations for well-known public figures are available only to their legitimate account owners, and termed claims that people are reserving popular or celebrity usernames as "false".

The company's rebuttal formed part of a new set of FAQs released by the Meta-owned messaging app, as its upcoming username feature comes under criticism over rising risks of impersonation and online fraud.

The clarification comes as the feature faces intense backlash over potential risks of fraud, phishing, and impersonation. On Wednesday, the Indian Government issued a formal notice to Meta, directing it to pause rollout of usernames until consultations address security concerns to the Centre's satisfaction.

Authorities cited fears that the change could significantly escalate online scams, including digital arrest frauds. Several prominent personalities have voiced worries on X, after discovering that many variations of their names appeared already reserved during the current pre-launch phase.

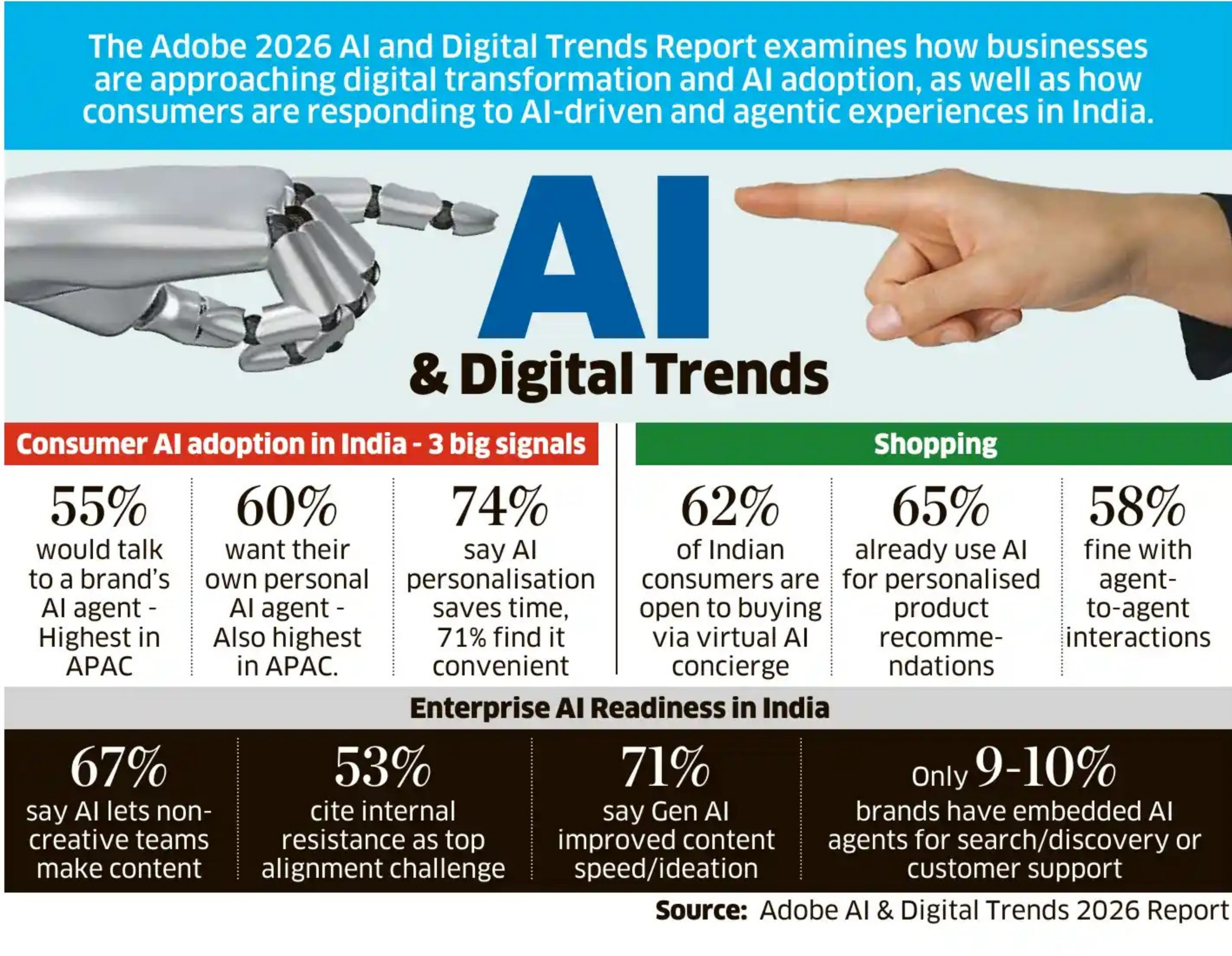
Experts and users warn that the feature could trigger

Notice to Telegram, Signal

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Centre has sent notices to Telegram and Signal, questioning their existing username features and seeking details on how the platforms are tackling concerns related to fraud and impersonation. This follows a similar notice issued to WhatsApp earlier this week, widening the government's scrutiny of anonymity features in major messaging apps.

a surge in spoofing and fraud, making it easier for malicious actors to deceive others.

In response, a WhatsApp spokesperson emphasised that the ability to use usernames is not yet active and will be introduced gradually later this year. "To protect against impersonation, we've held the highest-profile names—think public figures, government entities, celebrities, verified Meta accounts—so they can only ever be claimed by their legitimate owners," the spokesperson said.



Tarun Nandwani appointed CEO of Newgen Software

NEW DELHI, PTI: Newgen Software Technologies on Thursday said it has appointed Tarun Nandwani as CEO.

Nandwani, currently the COO, will take over for an 18-month term effective August 1, 2026, up to January 31, 2028.

He succeeds Virender Jeet, who resigned last month citing "personal and professional reasons". According to a filing, Jeet will continue in his role until August 31, 2026.

Nandwani is associated with Newgen for 33 years.

"Under his leadership, Newgen strengthened its global footprint, expanded strategic product portfolios, deepened customer relationships and enhanced execution capabilities across the organisation," it said.

Puri rules out immediate cut in petrol, diesel prices

Minister says OMCs incurred loss of Rs 75,000 cr in Q1 of current FY

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Thursday ruled out any immediate cut in retail prices of petrol and diesel, saying state-run oil marketing companies incurred a loss of close to Rs 75,000 crore in the first quarter of the current fiscal YoY, due to a surge in crude prices and disruptions caused by the West Asia conflict.

Puri said the "question of bringing fuel prices down is not legitimate at this point in time".

However, the minister said the prices of petrol and diesel would be reviewed if the crude price remains at low level for a sustained period.

Crude price, which had surged to over \$120 per barrel during the peak of the conflict in April, has come down to around \$70 a barrel.

Puri informed that the state-run OMCs incurred a cumulative under-recoveries of Rs 1.88 lakh crore during the April-June quarter. This includes Rs 1.44 lakh crore on diesel, Rs 19,905 crore on petrol and Rs 24,148 crore on LPG.

During the April-June quarter, OMCs suffered a loss of Rs 74,781 crore. Puri said they continue to suffer substantial under-recoveries on LPG, despite softening crude prices in the international

markets.

The minister said the crude currently being processed by OMCs was purchased when international prices and freight rates were significantly higher. "They (OMCs) are still carrying the stock, which was bought at a higher price with higher insurance, higher freight rate."

On the possible cut in petrol and diesel prices, Puri said, "If this (low crude oil prices) persists next 2-3 months, then there could be a legitimate question, but you know, that's hypothetical."

Retail price of petrol and diesel were hiked cumulatively by around Rs 7.5 per litre in May.

Referring to the recent cut in petrol and diesel prices by private retailer Nayara Energy, Puri clarified that the reduction is essentially a reversal of the price hike that the company had done during the US-Iran conflict.

Nayara Energy has reduced petrol price by Rs 5 per litre and diesel by Rs 3 per litre with effect from July 1. After this cut, the retail price of petrol and diesel at Nayara Energy pumps has become similar to that of state-run OMCs.

When asked about the supply of refined petroleum products to Russia, the minister clarified that no Indian companies, government-run or private, are directly exporting refined fuels to Moscow.

However, he said Indian-origin refined fuels might be sold to Russia via traders. "Indian companies are not selling fuels to Russia," he said.

'Amaravati to host IBM quantum computer, commissioning by Sept'

AMARAVATI, PTI: IBM Chairman and CEO Arvind Krishna has confirmed that Amaravati will host one of the first two IBM quantum computers to be established in India, with commissioning targeted by September 2026.

Speaking at an event in the US, Krishna noted that the quantum computing revolution is approaching an inflection point, a statement said.

"In a major boost to Andhra Pradesh's ambition of becoming India's Quantum Capital, IBM Chairman and CEO Arvind Krishna has confirmed that Amaravati will host one of the first two IBM Quantum Computers to be established in India, with commissioning targeted by September 2026," it added.

According to him, quantum computers are just 2-3 years away from delivering significant commercial advantages across sectors such as pharmaceuticals, materials science, financial services, logistics, cybersecurity and advanced AI.



BELAGAVI INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
(Autonomous Medical Institution)
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Road, Belagavi - 590001. E-Mail: belgaum.bims@gmail.com



No: BIMS/EST(1)/79/2026-27Date: 02-07-2026

CORRIGENDUM TO RECRUITMENT ADVERTISEMENT DATED 11-06-2026

Applications are invited in the prescribed form from the eligible candidates for filling up of the following Posts for Super Speciality Hospital BIMS Belagavi. The last date of application is **18-07-2026 before 5.00 PM** and Interview date will be notified later on.

Sl. No.	Designation	Department	Vacant Post	Classification	Pay Scale	Age Limit
1	Professor (02)	1. Urology	1	GM (O) - 01 371(J) GM (O) - 01	144200-218200	GM - 42 Years + 5 years age relaxation OBC - 45 Years + 5 years age relaxation SC & ST - 47 Years + 5 years age relaxation
		2. Surgical Gastroenterology	1			
2	Associate Professor (07)	1. Neurology	1	SC (O) - 01 ST (O) - 01	131400-217100	GM - 39 Years + 5 years age relaxation
		2. Cardiology	1	GM (O) - 01		OBC - 42 Years + 5 years age relaxation
		3. Urology	1	GM (W) - 01		SC & ST - 44 Years + 5 years age relaxation
		4. Nephrology	1	GM (R) - 01		
		5. Surgical Gastroenterology	1	GM (PH) - 01		
		6. Medical Gastroenterology	1	ST (O) - 01 Cat-1 (O) - 01		
		7. Plastic Surgery	1	371 (J) GM (O) - 01		
3	Assistant Professor (11)	1. Neurology	1	SC (O) - 01	79800-211500	GM - 35 Years + 5 years age relaxation
		2. Neurosurgery	1	SC (W) - 01		OBC - 38 Years + 5 years age relaxation
		3. Cardiology	1	GM (O) - 01		SC & ST - 40 Years + 5 years age relaxation
		4. Urology	1	GM (W) - 02		
		5. Nephrology	1	GM (R) - 01		
		6. Surgical Gastroenterology	1	GM (PH) - 01		
		7. Medical Gastroenterology	1	ST (O) - 01 Cat-1 (O) - 01		
		8. Plastic Surgery	1	2A (O) - 01		
		9. Anaesthesiology	2	2B (O) - 01		
		10. Endocrinology	1			

Note: 1) The application minimum Qualification, Experience & Instructions may be downloaded from the institute Website: www.bimsbelgaum.karnataka.gov.in
2) Above 5 years age relaxation is as per Government Order No. ಸಿಬಿಎಚ್ 262 ಸೇವೆ 2025 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29-01-2026
3) Candidates who have already submitted their applications need not submit new application again.

Sd/- Director
Belagavi Institute of Medical Sciences,
Belagavi.

DIPR/Belagavi/525/Adverto/2026-27



BANNERGHATTA BIOLOGICAL PARK
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
BANNERGHATTA BIOLOGICAL PARK, BENGALURU - 83.
Phone: 080-29776466 / 67 E-mail: ed@bannerghattabiopark.org



No: A3/BBP/Tender/Civil Works/CR-02/2026-27 Date: 29-06-2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Deputy Director, Bannerghatta Biological Park, Bengaluru herein after referred as Tender Inviting Authority, has invited e-Tender from the eligible PWD / CPWD Contractors for **Construction of New Otter Holding House inside Zoo of Bannerghatta Biological Park, Bengaluru.**

Detailed tender documents may be downloaded from the Website: <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> from **30-06-2026 onwards.** Last Date and Time for Tender Queries and Clarifications: **13-07-2026.** Last Date and Time for Tenders may be Submitted along with the prescribed EMD and Tender Fees electronically in e-Portal: **14-07-2026 upto 4.00 P.M.** Date and Time for Opening of Technical Bid: **16-07-2026 at 11.30 AM.**

Sd/-
Deputy Director

DIPR/CP/1440/Adverto/2026-27



KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)



No: CEE/Tr(O)/ZHSN/SEE (O)/AEE-SI/NP-F-35,F-40(Addl)/2026-27/3693-96 Dated : 02.07.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal Only)

KPTCL invites bids through e-Procurement mode for following works on Partial Turnkey basis.

1) **Tender No. KPTCL/2026-27/SS/WORK_INDENT3915** for Providing **additional 1x12.5 MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformer at 66/11kV S/s, Ganguru (Kallikoppalu), Hassan District** pertaining to Operations Division, KPTCL, Holenarasipura (CALL-4).

2) **Tender No. KPTCL/2026-27/SS/WORK_INDENT3916** for Providing **additional 1x12.5 MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformer at 66/11kV S/s, Nagarathi, Holenarasipura Taluk, Hassan District** pertaining to Operations Division, Holenarasipura (CALL-4).

The detailed notification regarding subject enquiry in the e-Tendering process can be obtained by logging on to website: <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> with hyperlink "tenders" on or **after 03.07.2026 @ 11:00 Hrs.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Electy.),
Transmission (Operations) Zone, KPTCL, 3rd Floor,
Prasarana Bhavana, Santhepete, B.M. Road, Hassan.



Belgium late show floors Senegal

Tielemans scores World Cup's latest winner in a comeback for the ages

SEATTLE, AFP

Youri Tielemans scored the latest winner in World Cup history as Belgium mounted an incredible comeback from two goals down to beat Senegal 3-2 and qualify for the last 16 of the World Cup on Wednesday.

Senegal appeared on course for a first win in a World Cup knockout match since their 2002 debut after taking a 2-0 lead through

strikes from Habib Diarra and Ismaila Sarr in Seattle. However, Belgium forced extra time as Romelu Lukaku and Tielemans scored in the final five minutes, before the Aston Villa midfielder completed a remarkable turnaround by converting a penalty in the 125th minute.

Belgium thus set up a meeting with the United States, who sent Bosnia and Herzegovina packing later on Wednesday, but it will be a bitterly painful pill to swallow for Senegal.

A defeat would surely have signalled the end of the road for the last remnants of Belgium's golden generation – Lukaku, Kevin De Bruyne and perhaps Thibaut Courtois – but instead they live to fight another day.

After a 5-1 win over New Zealand that clinched top spot for Belgium in Group G, Garcia named an unchanged side with Atalanta

forward Charles De Ketelaere leading the attack and Lukaku on the bench.

Thiaw made three changes to the Senegal side that thrashed Iraq 5-0, which allowed them to squeak through as the last of the eight best third-place teams.

Pape Gueye started after scoring twice as a substitute in that match, while Pathe Ciss and Everton winger Iliman Ndiaye came into the line-up.

Senegal nearly went ahead through the in-form Sarr, who hit the post after Courtois inadvertently diverted a cross into the Crystal Palace forward's path.

The Lions of Teranga did take the lead, however, when Sarr's header from Sadio Mane's cross came back off the same post, with Diarra reacting quickest to turn the rebound



Youri Tielemans is mobbed of his Belgium team-mates after scoring his team's third and winning goal in the injury time of extra time during their round of 32 match against Senegal in Seattle. AFP

home. Belgium's best chance of the half fell to Maxim De Cuyper, whose curling effort from outside the area drew an outstanding full-stretch save from Mory Diaw.

Diaw was again filling in for Edouard Mendy, who returned to Saudi Arabia for tests on a knee injury he suffered in Senegal's second game of the tournament.

Belgium unsurprisingly turned to their all-time leading scorer at

the interval, with Lukaku having already proven his value as a substitute against Egypt and New Zealand in the group phase.

But Belgium fell further behind six minutes into the second half when Sarr chested down Moussa Niakhate's long pass over the defence before firing an emphatic finish beyond Courtois.

De Bruyne and Jeremy Doku were hauled off as Belgium

appeared to be heading out, but Lukaku grabbed his team a lifeline in the 86th minute.

He swept home from a Thomas Meunier cross and, just three minutes later, Belgium were level. Diaw failed to deal with Leandro Trossard's delivery into the box and Tielemans held off two defenders to nod into an empty net.

Belgium substitute Dodi Lukebakio clipped the crossbar late in

the second period of extra time as the match appeared destined for a penalty shootout.

But there was one final twist when Tielemans went down under a challenge from Lamine Camara, prompting referee Said Martinez to award a penalty after a VAR review. Tielemans stepped up and dispatched with aplomb to cap a stunning fightback and break Senegalese hearts.



Senegal players can't hide their dejection after their 2-3 defeat to Belgium in Seattle. AFP

Cruel end to Senegal's inspired campaign

SEATTLE, REUTERS

Senegal coach Pape Thiaw described football as a "cruel game" after his side's late collapse and eventual defeat by Belgium following extra time in the World Cup round of 32 on Wednesday.

Senegal looked to be a few minutes from confidently dispatching their opponents with a 2-0 win when Belgium equalised

with two goals in three minutes and then won 3-2 with a Youri Tielemans penalty late in the extra period.

Senegal had faced controversy coming into the World Cup.

They were controversially stripped of their Africa Cup of Nations title for protesting a penalty decision by leaving the field just before full-time in the final with Morocco in January before returning to win 1-0 after

the spot kick was missed.

On Wednesday, several Senegal players were visibly upset when Belgium was given a penalty late in extra time.

It was awarded for Lamine Camara's sliding challenge on Tielemans following a lengthy VAR review.

"We believed that there was no penalty," Thiaw said. "The players tried to challenge the decision. It's

their right. "And then the penalty was taken - and this is the reason why we are now eliminated."

It was Senegal's game to lose with a 2-0 lead in the 85th minute, he said. "However, a football match is not an 85-minute one. Belgium came back, and we were not able to deal with that."

Senegal lost focus when Belgium showed late spark in the match, Krepin Diatta told reporters.

"We were determined to write some beautiful pages in the history of our football in this World Cup, and we have to accept that we failed in this mission," he said. "Given what we offered, we shouldn't have lost this match."

Belgium on Monday will face the United States in the round of 16 after the co-hosts defeated Bosnia and Herzegovina 2-0 in another last-32 match.

Egypt praying King Salah is battle ready

DALLAS, REUTERS

Mohamed Salah remains in a race to be ready for Egypt's last 32 clash with Australia in Dallas on Friday with the forward continuing his recovery from a hamstring strain sustained in the 1-1 draw with Iran.

The Egyptians are in the knockout rounds for the first time after group phase eliminations in 1990 and 2018 and Salah's availability is a key concern for coach Hossam Hassan ahead of the clash with Tony Popovic's side.

A video of Salah working out in the gym away from team-mates on the training pitch was posted on social media on Wednesday, suggesting the 34-year-old could be fit enough to play a part at Dallas Stadium.

"The road back begins," said the latest post, "and the King is coming back stronger."

The draw with the Iranians booked Egypt's place in the last 32 as runners-up in Group G after a win over New Zealand and an opening stalemate with Belgium.

Salah's stellar talent and reputation have been a focal point in the lead-up to the game for the Australians, who are attempting to win in the knockout rounds for the first time.

The Socceroos have moved past the group phase for the third time

Skipper Mohamed Salah's fitness is a key concern for Egypt as they take on Australia in the last-32 clash on Friday. AFP



Cape Verde plot Argentina upset to continue fairytale run

MIAMI, REUTERS

By any measure, Cape Verde should have next to no chance of knocking Argentina and Lionel Messi out of the World Cup on Friday, but the Africans have huge confidence in their ability to defy the odds and keep their fairytale debut campaign alive.

Draws with former World Cup winners Spain and Uruguay helped them into the knockout stage and far from cursing their luck at having to play the reigning champions in the round of 32, assistant coach Humberto Bettencourt said this week that it would be "a pleasure" to face the Albiceleste.

"Statistics are theories. Football – as many results throughout history have shown – proves that what really counts is what happens inside the four lines," he told reporters at the team's camp in Tampa on Sunday.

"They gave us one percent before, and now four percent is irrelevant to us. We focus much more on our ambitions, our expectations and above all on the value that defines this working group."

Bettencourt said Cape Verde would not be changing their style measurably to contain the world champions and had no plans to man-mark Messi in an attempt to nullify the threat of the little Argentine general.

"We consider Messi to be a player who makes a difference," Bettencourt added. "But we always look at the collective – the combinations that can be created, the spaces they may try to open up for Messi."

The least populous nation ever to make the knockout rounds of a World Cup, Cape Verde's campaign has not only raised the profile of the squad but also put the entire island-nation on the map.

People have migrated from Cape Verde throughout its history – the World Cup squad includes players born in the Netherlands, Portugal, France, the United States and Ireland – including a sizeable number to Argentina.

Bettencourt, the only member of the Cape Verde delegation to speak to the media this week, confirmed that Telmo Arcanjo was 50-50 for the Argentina game because of a leg injury. The skilful midfielder did not train with the team.

Combative left back



Lionel Messi-inspired Argentina are favourites to win, but Cape Verde may not go down without a fight during their last-32 match. AFP

Sidny Cabral will be available again, however, after serving a one-match ban against Saudi Arabia for picking up yellow cards against Spain and Uruguay.

Argentina coach Lionel Scaloni looks set to bring

Messi back into his line-up after starting him on the bench in their last group match against Jordan.

Messi came on as a substitute to score his sixth goal of the WC in the 3-1 win that kept the Albiceleste perfect

with three wins out of three through the opening round.

Otherwise, Scaloni will be considering which of the many top-class players in his squad are best suited to breaking down the Cape Verde defence.

Brazil's Paqueta ruled out of Norway clash after injury

MORRISTOWN (US), AFP: Brazil midfielder Lucas Paqueta will miss Sunday's World Cup last-16 game against Norway with a hamstring injury, a source at the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) said on Thursday.

He is not expected to play again in the tournament, unless Brazil reach the final on July 19 at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, the source added.

Paqueta, who has started alongside Casemiro and Bruno Guimaraes in midfield, suffered the injury during Brazil's dramatic 2-1 win over Japan in Houston on Monday.

He has been undergoing intensive treatment and is the only confirmed absentee for coach Carlo Ancelotti ahead of the meeting with Erling Haaland's Norway this weekend. Ancelotti could opt for a like-for-like replacement in Danilo Santos, or alter his set-up.



Brazil's Lucas Paqueta (right) suffered an injury during Brazil's 2-1 win over Japan. AFP

SCHEDULE

On Friday

Switzerland vs Algeria (8:30 am)

Australia vs Egypt (1:30 pm)

On Saturday

Argentina vs Cape Verde (3:30 am)

Live on Zee5 & Unit8.

All timings in IST



Jurgen Klopp. AFP

Klopp poised to become new Germany coach: reports

BERLIN, AFP: Julian Nagelsmann is reportedly set to be sacked as Germany coach, tabloid Bild reported Thursday, with former Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp the favourite to take over in the dugout.

Nagelsmann, 38, has been under fire since Germany's last 32 exit from the World Cup after a shock loss to Paraguay.

Showing pictures of Nagelsmann at German FA (DFB) headquarters in Frankfurt, Bild reported Thursday the coach had been offered a severance package of seven million euros to leave the position in a three-hour meeting.

Last renewed in January 2025, Nagelsmann's contract is set to run until 2028. Figures on his annual salary have not been made public, although German media reports he earns roughly seven million euros per year.

Germany's loss on penalties to Paraguay marked the third straight early World Cup exit for the four-time champions, after group stage eliminations in Russia and Qatar.



The great American dream lives on



Balogun scores and gets red-carded in 2-0 defeat of Bosnia & Herzegovina

SANTA CLARA (US), AFP

Folarin Balogun scored but was sent off as the United States beat Bosnia and Herzegovina 2-0 to reach the last 16 of the World Cup on Wednesday. The co-hosts' first World Cup knockout victory in nearly a quarter-century – and only their second ever – sets up a clash with Belgium in Seattle on Monday. Balogun's goal on the stroke of half-time had sent the crowd in California into delirium, with some 30 million Americans expected to be watching coverage of the blockbuster clash across the nation. But the striker saw red as VAR intervened following a nasty clash with Bosnia's Tarik Muharemovic. Yet even with the US forced into a 10-man rearguard action, Malik Tillman curled in a free kick to secure the win. "The guys had to dig in deep. It didn't go exactly to plan with the red card, but that just shows what a good team we are," said US forward Christian Pulisic. US supporters had flocked into the San Francisco Bay Area stadium in festive mood, their exuberant confidence summed up by the traditional pre-match fighter jet flyover in the bright California skies. Bosnia's tactics were made clear from the kickoff – an immediate long ball – while the US defence quickly camped out on the halfway line. Still, Bosnia had the best

US' Folarin Balogun (right) was sent off for this crunching tackle on Bosnia and Herzegovina's Tarik Muharemovic. AFP



US' Folarin Balogun (No. 20) threads the ball past Bosnia and Herzegovina goalkeeper Nikola Vasilj to score their opening goal in the last-32 clash on Wednesday. REUTERS

early chances. Forty-year-old captain Edin Dzeko held up a launched pass from his goalkeeper and laid it off for Ermedin Demirovic, who shot right at Matt Freese. US pressure began to tell. Balogun had a decent penalty shout for a clumsy Amar Dedric tackle waved away. Soon after the American striker had the ball in the net, but was offside. The crowd's nerves were soon soothed, as Balogun scored in the 45th minute. US captain Tim Ream intercepted a Bosnian goal kick, swiftly playing it to Tillman. His through ball deflected into the path of Balogun, who tucked it away. Seconds before half-time, another Balgoun shot from the six-yard line clipped the crossbar. Early in the second half, Dzeko limped off and Bosnian coach Sergej Barbarez made a triple substitution. A younger, more mobile front line featuring US-raised Esmir Bajraktarevic immediately pressed higher and faster. In the 64th minute, Balogun was shown a straight red after VAR review after he was harshly judged to have stamped on Muharemovic's foot. US coach Mauricio Pochettino used the hydration break to gather his squad on the field, rallying his outnumbered troops to hold out.

USA	Bosnia & Herzegovina
2	0

LeBron praises Balogun for 'Silencer' celebration

Basketball superstar LeBron James congratulated Folarin Balogun on scoring for the United States in their World Cup victory on Wednesday after the striker emulated his trademark "Silencer" celebration. Balogun twice put the ball in the net in the 2-0 victory over Bosnia and Herzegovina, whipping out James's signature dance move each time, though

his first effort was ruled offside. "THE (Silencer) HAS (Arrived) at the World Cup!" posted James on X, using a shushing emoji and another of a plane landing. "Helluva goal there Young (King)!" added James, whose nickname is King James, using another emoji featuring a crown. The post on X has received nearly four million views. James, the NBA's all-time leading scorer, is known for performing the celebration after scoring, particularly when he sinks clutch, game-changing shots.



US' Folarin Balogun

Swiss up against familiar foe Algeria

VANCOUVER, REUTERS

Switzerland will face a team that knows them well when they meet Algeria in their World Cup last 32 on Thursday, with the North Africans coached by Vladimir Petkovic - the man who guided the Swiss national team for seven years. Petkovic joined Swiss club Chur 97 in 1987, going on to play for and manage a number of Swiss sides before taking the helm of the national team between 2014 and 2021, where he coached the likes of Switzerland captain Granit Khaka and striker Breel Embolo. "I look different now than I did six years ago, there's a big difference," Embolo joked when asked what had changed since Petkovic left the Switzerland job. "Both teams want to win, we want to write history. Petkovic, he really raised the bar with the Swiss team. And now we want to go even fur-



The clash between coaches, Algeria's Vladimir Petkovic (left) and Switzerland's Murat Yakin, adds an interesting subplot when the two sides lock horns in the last-32 clash on Thursday night. AFP



ther. We have a new coach now. And it is always difficult as a player to compare coaches to each other. "One thing that they have in common is that they both want to write history. If it's going to be an advantage, well, at the end of the day, it's still football." The World Cup clash will not be the first time that current Swiss coach Murat Yakin has faced Petkovic, with the two pitted against each other when coaching in the Swiss league. "Every time we met, it

was very special. I was the coach of Thun and he was the coach of Young Boys, so it was the big brother against the small brother, it was always very positive," Yakin said. "It was also a very tactical approach, and this is going to be the case also tomorrow. Of course, this was years ago and tomorrow is a very special match and a very special time we meet, at the end of the day, the players will decide who has the better tactical approach."

KANSAS CITY, AFP

Harry Kane is England's talisman, record goal-scorer and often their saviour. Is he also their only hope at the World Cup? The captain came up with the goods yet again against the Democratic Republic of Congo in Atlanta on Wednesday, scoring twice in 11 minutes as Thomas Tuchel's men recovered from a shocking start to win 2-1. The Bayern Munich star headed a superb equaliser from Anthony Gordon's cross in the 75th minute and thumped home the winner with four minutes remaining. Kane now has five goals at the 2026 World Cup, one behind Lionel Messi and Kylian Mbappe and level with Erling Haaland in a captivating race for the Golden Boot. His 12th and 13th World Cup goals in the round of 32 moved him ahead of Pele's dozen, up to sixth on the all-time list, level with France forward Just Fontaine and six behind Messi. A relieved Tuchel described Kane as being one

of the "sharks" at the World Cup, alongside the other A-list forwards. "They are all sharks," he said. "If they smell blood, they come and score." "It's crazy," the German added. "So, so good. He's our captain, he's our leader, and decides football matches with unbelievable finishes." Kane, who has few equals as a finisher, has a remarkable 72 goals for club and country this season in just 62 appearances. Midfielder Declan Rice told the BBC that his skipper was posting "ridiculous numbers". "He is a proper leader, a captain, trains every day and gets on with everyone in the group," he said. "When you have someone who can win a game for you like that... That second goal, he just reverse whips it into the top corner, and it was ridiculous to see. We're very lucky to have him." Kane himself said it was his day for "hero moments" as England now look forward to a last-16 match against Mexico at the Azteca Stadium. But the question for Tuchel



Just when England were staring at the exit door against DR Congo, the talismanic Harry Kane came to their rescue with a superb brace. REUTERS

is: who else can don a cape and come to England's rescue? Kane and Real Madrid midfielder Jude Bellingham are undoubtedly the team's "go-to" men for a crisis, scoring seven out of England's eight goals so far at the World Cup.

England are not the only team to rely on special players to provide moments of inspiration – Messi scored six of Argentina's eight goals in the group phase. But Tuchel must have sleepless nights over the

fitness of his 32-year-old captain, with no natural replacement at centre-forward. Despite Kane's goals, England have struggled to live up to their billing as one of the favourites to win their first World Cup since 1966.

Praggu outwits Kaymer

ZAGREB (CROATIA), PTI: Grandmaster R Pragganandhaa (in pic) began his campaign in the Zagreb leg of the Grand Chess Tour with a victory over top seed Vincent Keymer of Germany before drawing his next two games to finish the opening day of the rapid section at joint second. Pragganandhaa held France's Maxime Vachier-Lagrave and compatriot and world champion D Gukesh in hard-fought draws to end the day on four points, here on Wednesday. Alireza Firouzja of France emerged sole leader on five points after winning his first two games and drawing with Anish Giri of the Netherlands in the third round. With each rapid win worth two points, Firouzja moved ahead of Pragganandhaa,

Giri, Vachier-Lagrave and Keymer, who recovered from his opening-round defeat with two victories. After winning the Norway chess classic ahead of Magnus Carlsen, Pragganandhaa went on an attacking spree against Keymer in what will be hailed as a masterclass in the future. The fury of white pieces was there for everyone to see as Pragganandhaa launched his forces right at the opponent king and cashed in on the full two points in a mere 26 moves. Standings (after round 3, Rapid): 1: Firouzja Alireza (Fra, 5 points); 2-5: Maxime Vachier-Lagrave (Fra), R Pragganandhaa (Ind), Anish Giri (Ned), Vincent Keymer (Ger) all 4 each; 6-7: D Gukesh (Ind) Deac Bogdan-Daniel (Rou) both 3 each; 8: Nodirbek Abusattorov (Uzb, 2); 9: Jordan van Foreest (Ned, 1); 10: Ivan Saric (Cro, 0).



Fielding same squad crucial: Marijne

BENGALURU, DHNS

If winning gold at the Asian Games means direct qualification for the next Olympics for hockey teams, the two full years of preparation time on offer becomes the bigger reward for every competitor to chase. The end goal is much the same for Sjoerd Marijne – the head coach of the Indian women's hockey team – who is back in Bengaluru after leading the side to Nation Cup victory in New Zealand last week. "The benefit is that it gives you a lot of time to prepare," said the Dutchman during a conversation organised by the Sports Writers Association of Bangalore on the occasion of World Sports Journalists Day here at the KSBA on Thursday. However, such a luxury of time won't be there before the



MM Somaya (left), Olympic gold medalist and former India captain, along with Sjoerd Marijne, head coach of Indian women's hockey team, speak during a discussion organised by the Sports Writers Association of Bangalore (SWAB) on the occasion of World Sports Journalists Day in Bengaluru on Thursday.

start of the Asian as there is merely a 20-day gap after the World Cup ends in August. But Marijne isn't too concerned and hinted, once again, that fielding the same squad was crucial.

"If I go with another team to the World Cup, the team missing out is losing. We (the same set of players) need to play more matches. So that's why the World Cup can lead us to be even better

(at the Asian)," Marijne added. The limited turnaround time between two big events isn't new for Indian teams. MM Somaya, 1980 Moscow Olympic gold medalist and former India captain, the other speaker at the discussion who was in a similar situation during his playing days, echoed Marijne's stance while adding that doing well at the WC was important to gain world ranking points for India who have dropped to No. 8 (men) and No. 9 (women). "In the last few months, they (men's) seemed to have recovered from the earlier setbacks. There were some draws and wins against top teams in the Hobart and European leg of FIH Pro League. They seem to be peaking at the right time so they have a lot of confidence going into WC and Asian," opined the 67-year-old.

Sahan takes SL A to 288/5

GALLE, PTI: Pacer Yash Thakur and off-spinner Saransh Jain took two wickets apiece but Sri Lanka A rode on skipper Sahan Arachchige's (in pic) unbeaten 83 to reach 288 for 5 in 85 overs on the opening day of the second unofficial four-day match against India A here on Thursday. While Arachchige's 148-ball innings had nine fours and a six, he enjoyed a 99-run stand for the fifth wicket with keeper Anjala Bandara (42), who was bowled by off-break bowler Jain. Apart from Thakur (2/32) and Jain (2/77), lanky speedster Gurnoor Brar (1/49) also got a wicket while Zeeshan Ansari, playing his first red ball game after a gap of six years, gave away 64 in his 16 wicket-less overs. On a slow Galle track, pick-

ing up wickets wasn't an easy proposition as Sri Lanka A openers Pawantha Weerasinghe (39) and Sohan di Livera (28) added 53 runs. It was Thakur who got left-handed Di Livera to edge one to Devdutt Padikkal in the slip cordon. Weerasinghe, the other southpaw, had done all the hardwork to see off the morning session before Brar struck minutes before lunch. He got Weerasinghe to edge one to India A skipper and keeper Dhruv Jurel behind the stumps. It was Nuwanidu Fernando (44) and Ashen Bandara (34), who also looked set as they added 57 for the third wicket. Brief scores: Sri Lanka A: 288/5 in 85 overs (Sahan Arachchige 83 n.o., Sohan de Livera 28, Nuwanidu Fernando 44, Ashen Bandara 34, Anjala Bandara 42; Yash Thakur 2-32, Saransh Jain 2-77) vs India A.



India's Lanka tour to start on Aug 15

COLOMBO, PTI: India's two-Test series against hosts Sri Lanka will be played in Galle and Colombo from August 15 to 27, the home board SLC announced on Thursday.

The series is part of the World Test Championship. The first Test will be played at the Galle International Stadium from August 15, while the second will be at the SSC from August 23, read a statement from Sri Lanka Cricket.

India, who have made two finals but never won the WTC title, are currently fifth in the standings, while Sri Lanka are sixth.

First T20I abandoned due ro rain

CHESTER-LE-STREET (UK), PTI: Abhishek Sharma's dynamic 59 and skipper Shreyas Iyer's composed 68 helped India gain a slice of positivity despite their first T20I against England getting abandoned because of incessant rains here on Wednesday.

Their fifties helped India post a competitive 189 for seven, a noticeable change in their batting fortunes after churning out two underwhelming efforts against Ireland in the recent 0-2 series defeat.

The second contest of the five-match series will be played at Manchester on July 4.

Himanshi, Gaurav lift U-19 TT titles

BENGALURU, DHNS: BR Gaurav and Himanshi Chowdhary won the boys' and girls' U-19 singles titles respectively at the Karnataka State Ranking table tennis tournament in Mangaluru on Thursday.

Himanshi, who won the women's singles title the other day, came back to win the U-19 final by defeating Raashi V Rao 9-11, 11-6, 11-13, 12-10, 11-6, 4-11, 11-6 (5-2).

The boys' U-19 final saw Gaurav defeat his namesake Gaurav Gowda 11-6, 12-14, 11-9, 11-8, 9-11, 11-1 (5-1).

The U-17 boys' and girls' finals saw Aakash KJ and Mihika Udupa emerge as the champions, respectively. **Results: Final: Boys: U-19:** BR Gaurav bt Gaurav Gowda 11-6, 12-14, 11-9, 11-8, 9-11, 11-1; **U-17:** Aakash KJ bt Yeshwanth P 3-11, 11-8, 11-7, 12-10, 10-12, 11-8. **Girls: U-19:** Himanshi Chowdhury bt Raashi V Rao 9-11, 11-6, 11-13, 12-10, 11-6, 4-11, 11-6; **U-17:** Mihika Udupa bt Vibha Tavakari 11-9, 11-9, 11-6.

Zothan 'tricks in Amey FC romp

BENGALURU, DHNS: Zothan Mawia Pachuau scored a hat-trick to power Amey FC to a 4-0 win over Blues FA in the KSFA D Division League Championships at the Bangalore Football Stadium on Thursday.

LOCAL FOOTBALL

Results: Sport Hood FC: 2 (Ildhrees 32nd, 42nd) bt Karnataka Sports Network: 0; Bangalore Athletic FC: 2 (Dave 20th, 39th) bt Srirampura Camp Boys: 0; FC Revelation FC: 1 (Tamizhenthir 23rd) drew with Kraken FC: 1 (Vishal D Gandhi 42nd); Majaz FC: 2 (Nikhil 28th, Ragul 39th) bt Athlitis FC: 0; Elite Soccer School: 3 (Annappa YR 5th, 49th, Tantanga Kohai Angelluies Moring 50th) bt Bangalore Falcon: 1 (Sayyed Faisal Amjad 14th); Amey: 4 (Sepili 7th, Zothan Mawia Pachuau 18th, 21st, 38th) bt Blues FA: 0.

ON TV

CRICKET
2nd Test: West Indies vs Sri Lanka (Day 1, 7:30 pm). **LIVE on Fan-Code.**

Maharaja T20 Trophy: Gulbarga Mystics vs Mysore Warriors (2:30 pm), Hubli Tigers vs Bengaluru Blasters (7 pm). **LIVE on Sony Sports Network, FanCode.**

TENNIS
Wimbledon: Round 3 (3:30 pm). **LIVE on Star Sports Network, JioHotstar.**

TENNIS WIMBLEDON

Swiatek finds her groove

Zverev brushes aside Royer as title hopes gather momentum

LONDON, AFP

Iga Swiatek put a stuttering start to her Wimbledon title defence firmly behind her by powering to a statement second-round victory over Karolina Pliskova, while Alexander Zverev also eased through on Thursday.

Zverev was on top form in a 6-1, 6-3, 7-6 (3) victory over Valentin Royer, raising hopes the German can finally master the grass courts.

Reigning champion Swiatek, who struggled to hold back tears after battling past Taylor Townsend in the first round, was back to her ruthless best in a 6-1, 6-3 dismantling of former world number one Pliskova in 70 minutes.

“For sure the first round was really emotional but today I felt like it's another day at the office, I need to be ready, be sharp,” said Swiatek.

The Pole, who has been inconsistent since winning her sixth Grand Slam title at the All England Club 12 months ago, will next face the Philippines' Alexandra Eala, who beat Serena Williams' first-round conqueror Maya Joint.

Pliskova, who returned to the tour this year after a long-term injury absence, was no match for the third seed.

The 25-year-old Swiatek has reached at least the third round on each of her past 26 Grand Slam appearances since

losing in round two at the 2019 US Open.

Eala, the 29th seed, became the first woman from the Philippines to reach the third round of a Grand Slam, defeating Joint 3-6, 6-2, 6-0 on a raucous Court Three.

“I think the atmosphere today was amazing, it was electric, respectful and all that I could have hoped for,” said the 21-year-old.

Earlier, reigning French Open champion Mirra Andreva was eliminated, losing in three sets to Barbora Krejickova 6-4, 5-7, 4-6.

Last year's runner-up Amanda Anisimova came back from a break down in the third set to beat Sofia Kenin in a deciding tie-break.

Former Australian Open champion Madison Keys ended home interest in the women's singles, beating Britain's Katie Swan in straight sets.

Britain's future queen Princess Catherine attended the tournament on Thursday, greeting fans before watching some of the action on Court 18.

Meanwhile in men's draw, Zverev ended his long wait for a maiden Grand Slam title at the French Open last month but has never performed well at Wimbledon, failing to get past the last 16 in nine previous appearances.

The second seed has a golden opportunity to go further



Poland's Iga Swiatek defeated Czech Republic's Karolina Pliskova 6-1, 6-3 to reach the third round of Wimbledon in London on Thursday. AFP

this time around, with Jannik Sinner and Novak Djokovic in the other half of the draw, and fourth seed Ben Shelton already out of the tournament.

Zverev made short work of Royer, banishing some of the memories of last year when he was dumped out in the first round by another unseeded Frenchman, Arthur Rinderknech.

Novak Djokovic sent out a warning to his title rivals with an impressive straight-sets victory over Stefanos Tsitsipas to reach the third round for the 20th time late on Wednesday.

The 39-year-old eased to a

6-3, 6-4, 6-2 win under the Centre Court roof to maintain his latest bid for a record-breaking 25th Grand Slam title and record-equaling eighth Wimbledon triumph. The Serb will next face French 25th seed Arthur Rinderknech on Friday.

American sixth seed Taylor Fritz continued his strong recent record at the All England Club, seeing off compatriot Patrick Kypson 6-2, 6-2, 7-5 to reach the third round.

Fritz has made at least the quarterfinals at Wimbledon in three of the past four years.

Fifth-seeded Australian Alex de Minaur also breezed through with a dominant straight-sets

victory over French veteran Adrian Mannarino.

Results (Prefix denotes seedings): 2nd round: Men: 23-Rafael Nadal (Esp) bt Pablo Carreno Busta (Esp) 3-6, 6-3, 1-6, 6-3, 6-4; Jan-Lennard Struff (Ger) bt 28-Brandon Nakashima (USA) 4-6, 7-6 (6), 7-6 (5), 6-7 (6), 7-6 (7); 5-Alex de Minaur (Aus) bt Adrian Mannarino (Fra) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2; 6-Taylor Fritz (USA) bt Patrick Kypson (USA) 6-2, 6-2, 7-5; 2-Alexander Zverev (Ger) bt Valentin Royer (Fra) 6-1, 6-3, 7-6 (3).

Women: 23-Emma Navarro (USA) bt Oksana Selekhmeteva (Esp) 3-6, 6-4, 6-1; 12-Marta Kostyuk (Ukr) bt Anna Blinkova (Rus) 6-7 (5), 6-3, 6-3; 29-Alexandra Eala (Phi) bt Maya Joint (Aus) 3-6, 6-2, 6-0; 3-Iga Swiatek (Pol) bt Karolina Pliskova (Cze) 6-1, 6-3; 6-Amanda Anisimova (USA) bt Sofia Kenin (USA) 6-2, 4-6, 7-6 (3); 26-Madison Keys (UK) bt Katie Swan (GBR) 6-1, 6-4; 12-Liudmila Samsonova (Rus) bt 15-Diana Shnaider (Rus) 6-4, 4-6, 6-2; 21-Marie Bouzkova (Cze) bt Tyra Caterina Grant (Ita) 7-5, 6-3.

Dominant Natasha reigns supreme

BENGALURU, DHNS

Dominant Natasha Chethan of Karnataka retained her junior girls' (U-19) title with an authoritative 5-1 win over Tamil Nadu's Padmakshree C in the second Heyball National Championships late on Wednesday in Dehradun.

Fresh off a splendid bronze medal campaign at the World Junior Championships in Norway two weeks ago, Natasha carried that form into the premier tournament, hardly putting a foot wrong en route to the title.

Both cueists started tentatively in the race-to-five final. Once Natasha took the opening

rack, she discovered her rhythm and range, running through the next three racks in double-quick time and reducing her rival to a mere spectator.

Following an error by Padmakshree midway through the second rack, the Bengalee made a brilliant run. In the third, she got lucky twice, fluking a striped ball into the

top right-hand pocket. With a wave of her hand to her rival, she continued her run, capitalising on another lucky fluke to the bottom right.

Results: Junior girls: Final: Natasha Chethan (Kar) bt Padmakshree C (TN) 5-1. **Final standings:** Natasha Chethan (Kar) 1; Padmakshree C (TN) 2; Gianna Rego (Mah) 3; Aleina Khanna (Del) 4; Usha Jyothi (AP) 5; Angel Kamboj (Har) 6; Harleen Kaur (Pun) 7; Leisha Reddy (Tel) 8.

Sooryavanshi ready but Samson deserves longer run

MADHU JAWALI
BENGALURU, DHNS

Sanju Samson has both fierce supporters and harsh critics, but neither camp seems to apply a consistent standard in judging him. While his loyal fanbase, going by the past evidence, always looks eager to overlook his underperformances, his critics are equally keen for the right-hander to fail a couple of times to write him off.

There has been a huge clamour, and a systemic campaign, for the inclusion of 15-year-old sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi in the playing 11 even before the two-match T20I series against Ireland began. The three failures (two against Ireland and one against England on Wednesday) that Samson has endured have only amplified the call to hand Sooryavanshi his senior international debut.

Mercifully, selections and exclusions aren't done based on votes, like in reality contests. Agreed, not every selection is beyond scrutiny, but each of those decisions will have some cricketing logic behind it. It may work or go horribly wrong, but more often, it's not influenced by popular perception.

Indian team's assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate tried to convey as much post India's series defeat against Ireland.

“He (Sooryavanshi) is absolutely ready to play international cricket, there is no doubt about that but also Sanju Samson is a guy who went a long way to win us the World Cup three months



There's a big clamour to play Vaibhav Sooryavanshi (left) but Sanju Samson deserves a longer rope. AFP/PTI



ago,” Ten Doeschate said when pointedly asked about Sooryavanshi. “He has got a fairly good IPL, and it is important to give players confidence and a message to the players, we want to give guys a long run in the team.”

The team management has a strong reason not to overlook Samson's credentials after what he accomplished in the last three T20 Internationals during the T20 World Cup. The Kerala batter conjured three big half-centuries – (97 n.o., 50b, 12x4, 4x6) vs West Indies in final group match; (89, 42b, 8x4, 7x6) vs England in the semifinal & (89, 46b, 5x4, 8x6) vs New Zealand in the final – with each of those knocks worth its weight in gold. He was the player of the match against India in England and capped India's triumphant campaign with the player of the series honour. If these runs and acknowledgements at T20 cricket's biggest stage aren't good enough to give Samson an extended run, then nothing else will.

Head coach Gautam Gambhir and skipper Shreyas Iyer deserve to be applauded for

sticking with Samson for the England opener in Durham despite his poor scores and India's humiliating series loss to Ireland. The team followed the same conviction when Abhishek Sharma managed just one fifty (vs Zimbabwe) in seven T20 World Cup matches with other scores being 0, 0, 0, 15, 10 and 9. The explosive southpaw justified the faith with a 21-ball 52 in the final against the Kiwis.

Sooryavanshi is indeed ready for international cricket, and his opportunity will come sooner rather than later. But there is no pressing need to fast-track him. Being part of the squad alone can be invaluable for the teenager. It will allow him to settle into the environment, build rapport with the coaches and senior players, overcome any initial nerves, understand the team's philosophy and appreciate the gulf between junior cricket (or even the IPL) and the demands of the senior national side.

Till then let Samson use his remaining chances to either secure his place at the top or burn them to pave the way for Sooryavanshi.

Aakarshi, Tanya march on

MARKHAM (CANADA), PTI: Kidambi Srikanth retired early from his opening match due to fitness issues even as Tanya Hemnath and Aakarshi Kashyap emerged as the only Indian shuttlers to progress to the women's singles second round at the Canada Open Super 300 event badminton tournament here.

The 33-year-old Srikanth, who registered a runner-up finish at the US Open Super 300 last Sunday, was lagging 10-11 against Paris Olympic bronze medallist Lee Zii Jia of Malaysia in the men's singles opening round when he decided to throw in the towel after consulting with coach B Sai Praneeth.

Aakarshi saw off Anna Tatrano of France 21-14, 21-12 to set up a meeting with fourth seed Beiwen Zhang of the USA, while Tanya prevailed 21-16, 21-18 over USA's Disha Gupta in another match. She will face Japan's Riko Gunji next.

It was otherwise a dismal show for India as seven out of nine shuttlers failed to cross the opening hurdle on Wednesday.

New scoring

The high-intensity 3x15 format will take effect across domestic rankings, zonals and national championships from this month onwards with the Badminton Association of India (BAI) implementing the new BWF scoring system across the domestic circuit.

The Yonex-Sunrise All India Senior Ranking Tournament in Ernakulam will be the first tournament to introduce the new format.

India again top dope offenders' list

Kenya takes second spot, Russia placed third for June

NEW DELHI, PTI

India remained on top in the Athletics Integrity Unit's (AIU) global list of dope offenders, accounting for 162 names, once again highlighting the huge magnitude of the problem that plagues the country's sporting landscape.

Kenya took the second spot with 148 names in the June list, followed by Russia with over 60 cases.

The list includes persons serving bans for doping offences. It also includes persons who have committed non-doping violations such as tampering, evading testing, trafficking or missing whereabouts, which carry the same penalties as a doping offence.

The Athletics Integrity Unit is an independent anti-doping watchdog established by World Athletics. It has jurisdiction over international level athletes and their support staff.

India first surpassed Kenya in April this year and it remained unchanged in June as well.

In April, India was also designated as a country with

UNWANTED RECORD

■ India remained on top of global list of dope offenders with 162 names

■ Kenya was 2nd with 148 offences and Russia 3rd with 60

■ India ranked 2nd for ADRVs in athletics between 2022 & 1924 and 1st in 1925 -- 2022 (48 ADRVs), 2023 (63), 2024 (71) & 2025 (30)

■ In April, India was designated as “extremely high” risk country for doping by World Athletics

“extremely high” risk of doping by World Athletics after topping the list of doping offenders for the past two years.

In a decision taken recently by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) Board, Athletics Federation of India (AFI) has been re-categorised from Category B to Category A under Rule 15 of the World Athletics' Anti-Doping Rules.

“Unfortunately, the quality of the domestic anti-doping programme is simply not proportionate to the doping risk,” AIU Chair David Howman had said in a release.

India has ranked in the top two for the most Anti-Doping Rule Violations (ADRVs) in athletics between 2022 and 2025.

Aneesh, Smaran script Yodhas' stunning comeback

BENGALURU, DHNS: Shivamogga Yodhas flew past Coastal Kings Mangaluru with a seven-wicket victory in the DACSS Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 in Hubballi on Thursday.

Riding on a big partnership between Aneesh KV (in pic) and Smaran R, the Yodhas climbed second on the points table, while Coastal Kings Mangaluru slipped to third.

Earlier in the day, Abhilash Shetty and Dhanush Gowda registered figures of 2/33 for the Yodhas to restrict the

Coastal Kings to 162 for 7.

Meanwhile in the match before, Abhinav Manohar's explosive 12-ball 46 lit up the rain-hit clash between Hubli Tigers and Mysore Warriors, before the weather gods

forced the game to be abandoned as both teams shared points.

Brief scores: Coastal Kings Mangaluru: 162/7 in 20 overs (Niklin Jose 51, Suraj Ahuja 39, CA Karthik 36; Shreesha Achar 2-23, Abhilash Shetty 2-33, Dhanush 2-33) It to Shivamogga Yodhas: 165/3 in 18.2 overs (Aneesh KV 76 n.o., Smaran R 53 n.o., Nischith 2-35) by 7 wkts. Hubli Tigers: 91/6 in 8 overs (Abhinav Manohar 46, Ritesh Bhatkal 2-10) vs Mysore Warriors. **Result:** match abandoned due to rain.



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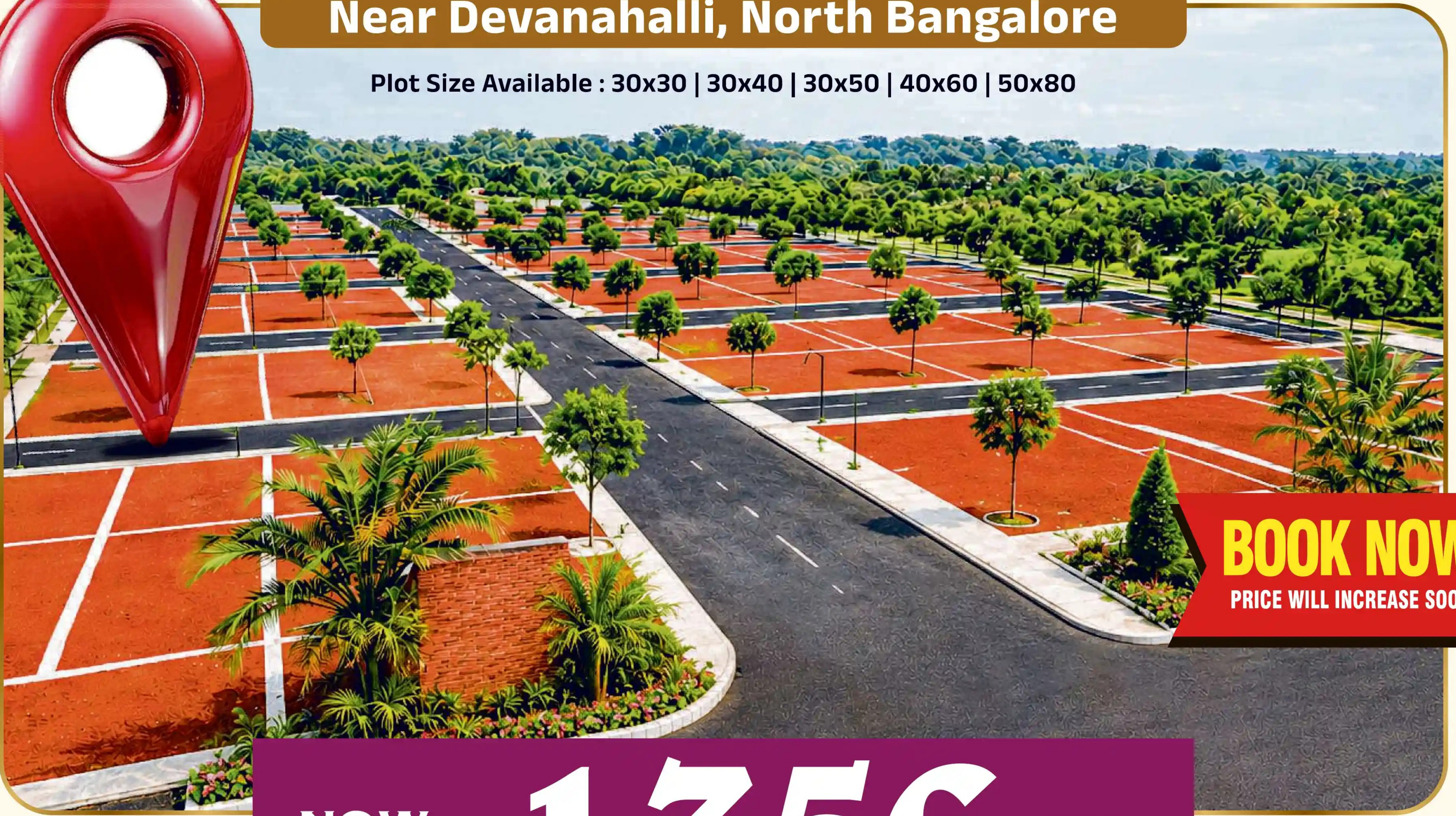
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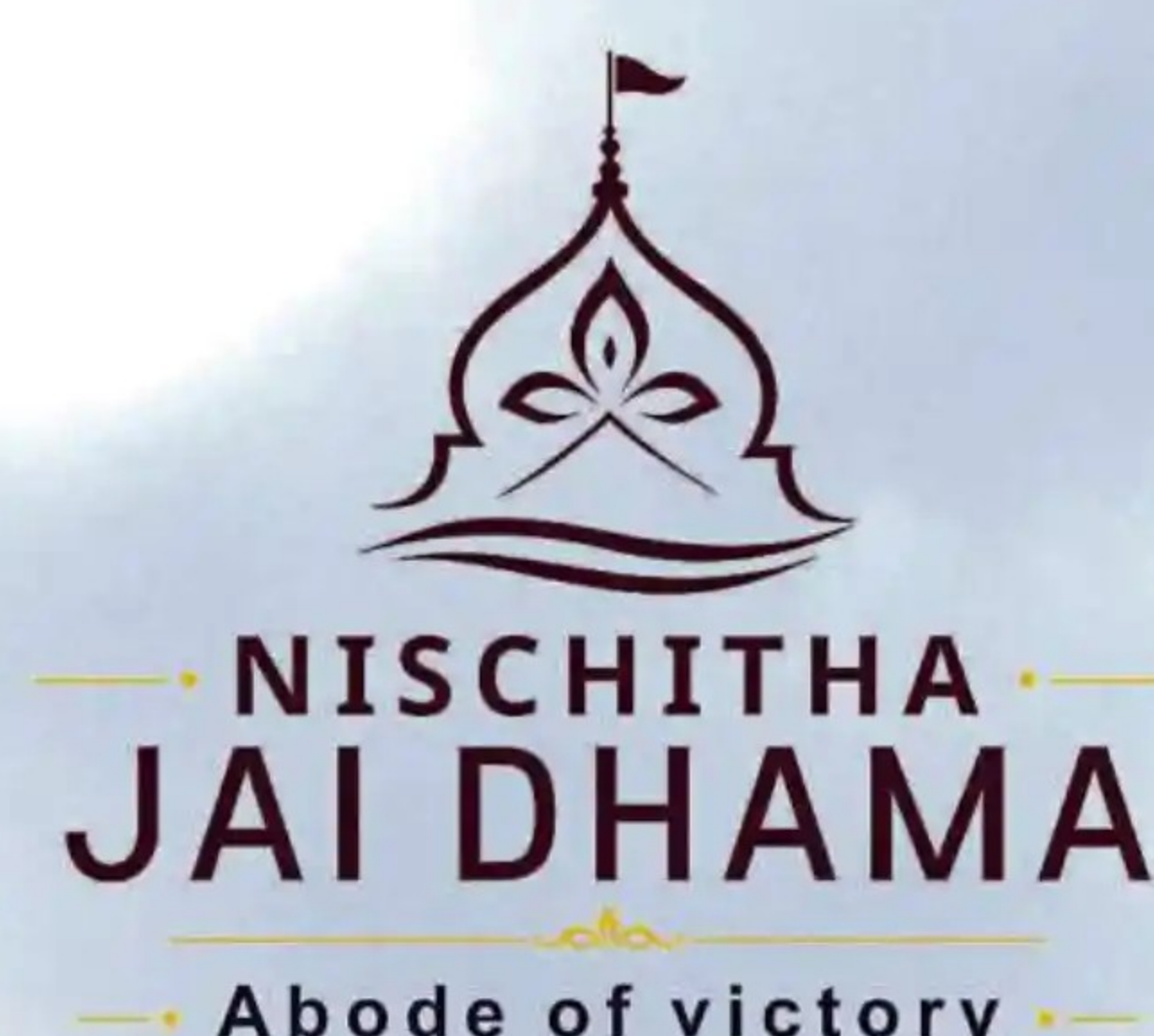
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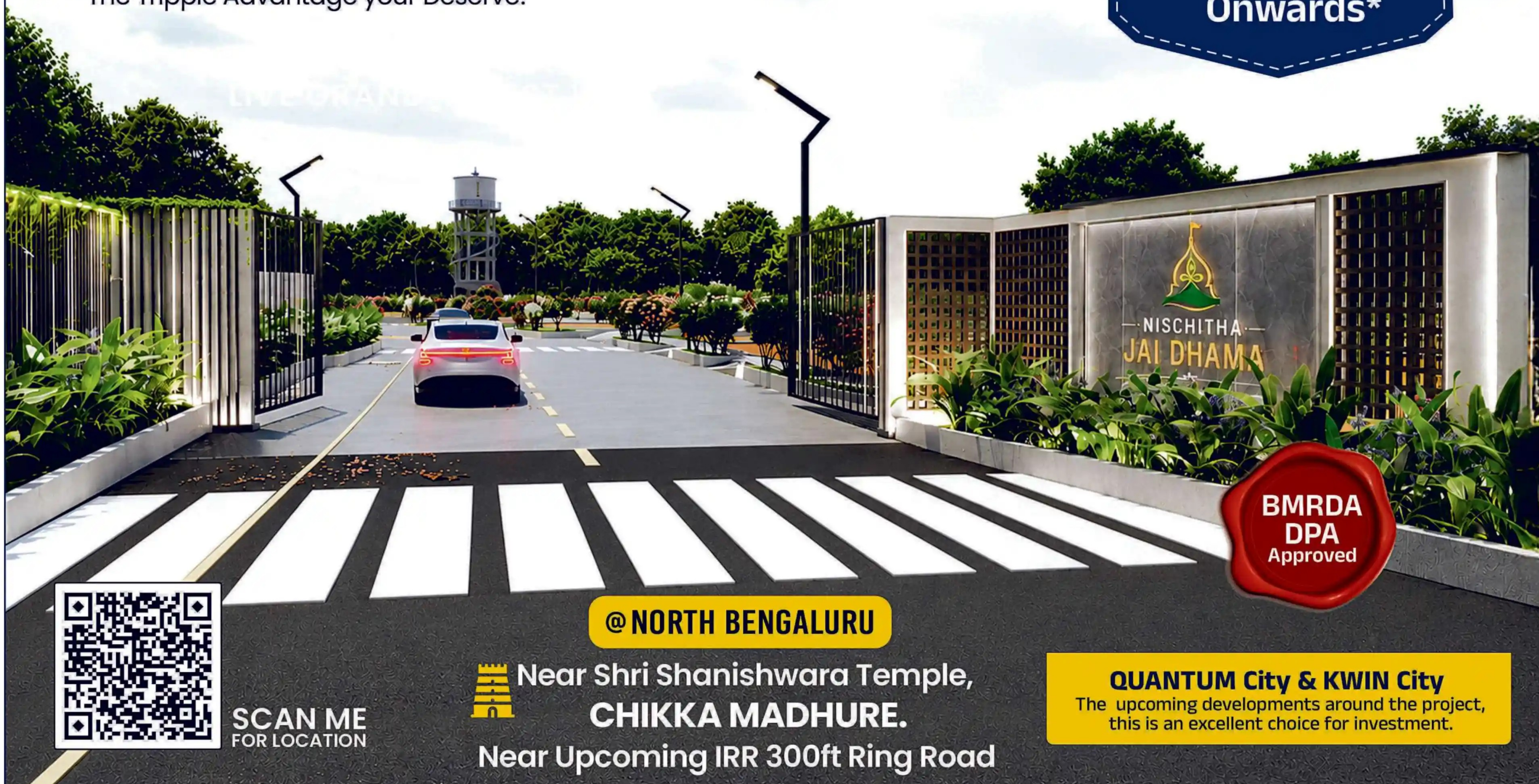


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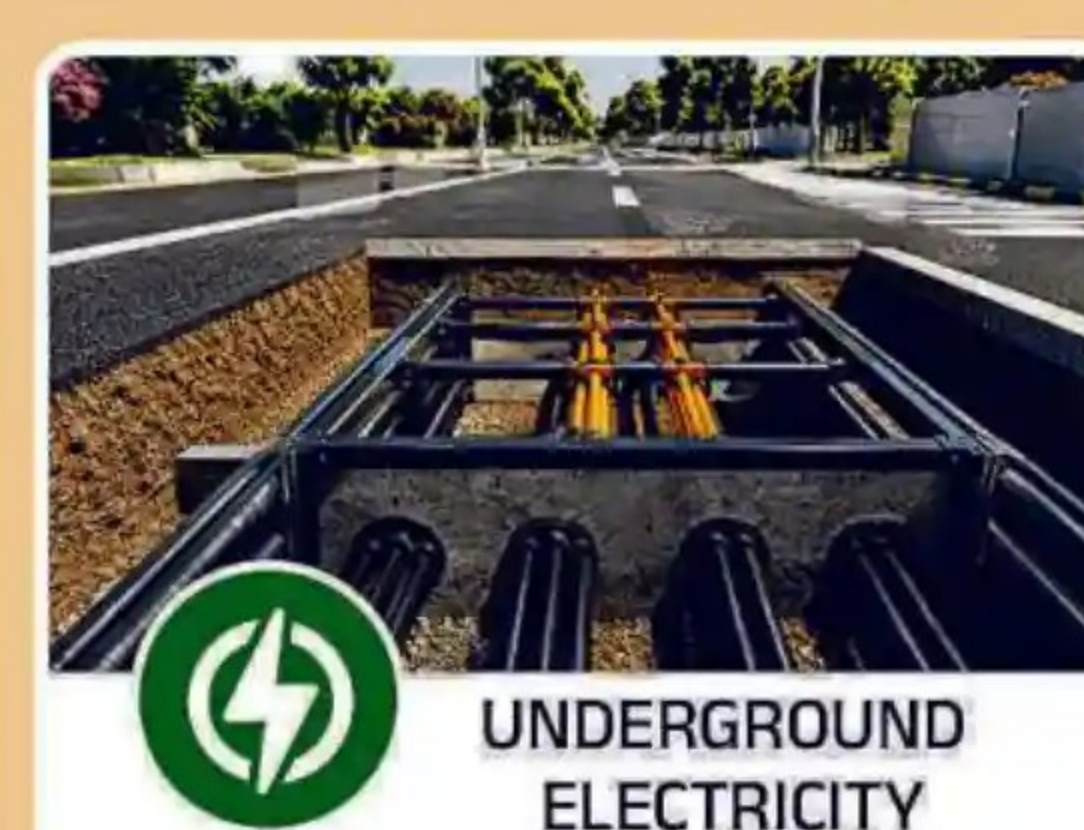
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